

Ayush Mhatre sets a new world record for youngest player to score 150+ in List A cricket against Nagaland, bettering Jaiswal's effort, P 23

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Protein is trending in India, and it is exactly what the country needs

Companies are betting big on protein with products ranging from curd to chips. Is this a much-needed nutritional shift or overhyped obsession with the 'P' word?

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Protein curd, protein buttermilk, protein milk, protein pasta and even protein water. And of course, there are countless powders and bars that sound like desserts with flavours such as New York cheesecake and cookie butter crunch. Even the humble sattu, the food of farmers and working class in Bihar, is being pitched as a protein mix. Clearly, protein has gone from something only gym bros cared about to almost an obsession in urban India.

BEYOND THE MANIA

Protein, along with carbohydrates and fat, is an essential macronutrient. It helps in growth, development and tissue repair. And it becomes more important as we age because we need it to preserve muscle mass and strength. It also makes us feel fuller so that we don't load up on carbs. But do we really need all those protein-enhanced products in our diets? While in

On an average, an Indian is consuming about 2,000 calories per meal. But the protein to calorie ratio is abysmal, while the carbs to calorie ratio is the highest

Sangeetha Aiyer
 NUTRITIONIST

the West, the conversation is about whether people are overdoing the protein, it's a different story in India. We are a protein-deficient nation due to vegetarian diets, selective meat-eating and the fact that a big part of the population can't afford it. According to UN Food and Agriculture Organisation data, India had a daily protein intake of only 70.5 gm per capita in 2021, lagging behind not only China's 124.6 gm and US' 124.3 gm, but also trailing Indonesia (79.8gm) and Pakistan (70.7gm). Studies have thrown up similar revelations: a survey by the Indian Market Research Bureau found that 73% of urban affluent individuals in India are protein deficient, with a vast majority unaware of their daily protein requirements or suitable protein sources.

But this is changing, albeit slowly. Hyderabad-based nutritionist Sangeetha Aiyer says the number of client requests that come her way regarding advice for a protein-rich diet plan



HOW MUCH PROTEIN DO YOU NEED?

WHO and ICMR recommend a daily protein intake of 0.8gms per gm of body weight for adults. Active folks need more. It can be calculated with this formula:

Daily Protein Requirement (DPR) = 0.8 x (your body weight)

For 70kg person, protein intake = 0.8 x 70 = 56gm

What to check for?

Verify actual protein per serving on label, says Shashank Mehta. "If a product advertises 'high protein' but delivers only 2gm per serving, that's misleading."

How much is too much?

Very high-protein diets can cause kidney stones. Too much red meat may up heart disease and colon cancer risk. Plant-based proteins may not carry similar risks

Cheap can come at a price

Some brands sell whey protein at prices below cost of quality sourcing, using lower concentration whey (around 40%) or amino-spiking to inflate protein content. "These might have celebrity endorsements and attractive pricing but compromise on nutritional value," Mehta says

products available in retail and e-commerce channels. These include early movers like The Whole Truth, set up in 2019, along with the entry of big FMCG players like ITC, Amul and Tata Consumer Products.

The trend can be termed as a 'democratisation' of protein consumption, says Shashank Mehta, founder of The Whole Truth Foods. "Athletes across disciplines — from endurance sports to casual sports — are now incorporating supplements into their nutrition. More importantly, we're seeing growing adoption among people who aren't necessarily leading active lifestyles, as awareness grows about age-related muscle loss and protein's role in maintaining muscle mass," Mehta says.

BUSTING MYTHS

Attempts to plug this literacy gap have sprung up online. Influencer Revant Himatsingka,

popularly known as 'Food Pharmar' online, announced the launch of 'Indian Protein School' recently. In social media posts, Himatsingka outlined that under the project, he would train over 10 million parents and school teachers on what a protein-rich diet looks like; launch a campaign pushing schools and offices to serve affordable protein options and partner with doctors to conduct research on protein science. Meanwhile, Mehta has started a newsletter which busts myths around protein. "We need to shift the conversation from protein being a 'fitness supplement' to what it really is — a fundamental nutrient that most Indians are missing out on," he says.

While the problem of protein-deficiency exists across the board, it's more pronounced among vegetarians, says Aiyer, with many finding it difficult to meet the daily protein requirement of 0.83gm per kg of body weight per day for adults set by the Indian Council of Medical Research. "For example, every household that eats a cup of dal thinks they're eating a lot of protein. However, they forget that a 100-gm bowl of dal is boiled and further diluted by adding water, spices and other ingredients. As a result, an average 150ml of dal actually contains only 2-3gm of protein," she explains. A better option, she says, would be to add paneer or tofu to the plate, along with curd or yogurt to a meal consisting of a regular bowl of dal and chapati/rice.

With many finding it difficult to carefully curate their meals, quite a few innovative options have sprung up. One of them is SuperYou, co-founded by Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh and entrepreneur Nikunj Biyani. "Post Covid, awareness about protein has increased dramatically. This has resulted in what I like to call the proteinification of our foods," says Biyani, whose own contribution to the category is a bio-fermented product. "Not only have studies shown that it has the same efficacy as an animal-based protein despite being vegan, it's also good for the gut as it's fermented." For those who have smelt the after-effects of too much protein, that's a decided plus. The first SuperYou launch is a protein wafer, with added fibre but no sugar or palm oil.

Taste and palatability remain key to cracking the market, says Bengaluru-based entrepreneur Vinit Kumar. Kumar and his team have patented clear whey protein isolate Protype that comes in flavours like mango peach, blueberry crush, and lychee martini. "I wanted to sell a form of really palatable protein, which could be consumed by everyone daily, not just by gym goers," Kumar says.

While protein is a crucial building block, nutritionists warn against overdoing it or neglecting fruits, vegetables and whole grains which provide vital vitamins, minerals and fibre. So, lead the whey, but carefully.

Migraine, sinus or tension? How to tell headaches apart

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), almost half of all adults experience a headache at least once a year. But not every headache is the same



TYPES OF HEADACHES



Tension headache
 Happens around the back of the head, the temples and the forehead



Migraine
 Typically occurs on just one side of the head



Cluster headache
 Happens in bouts, typically on one side and behind or around an eye



Post-traumatic headache
 Frequently occurs in the temples, forehead and neck



Medication overuse
 Location may vary from person to person



Sinus headache
 Happens inside the forehead, cheekbones and nasal cavity

Women are 2-3 times more likely to suffer from migraine than men

They are also 1.5 times more likely to get tension headaches

But more men get cluster headaches

Source: MedicalNewsToday



Kaju katli 1 piece		Rice kheer one serving (100gm)
70	CALORIES	140
1gm	PROTEIN	4gm
4gm	FAT	5gm
8gm	CARBS	20gm
6gm	SUGAR	10gm

Both are traditional Indian desserts but have a very different nutrition profile. Kaju katli is made with cashews and is very high on calories, fats and sugar content. Rice kheer is a better option as it's made with milk, which adds to the protein and calcium content. But one must add less sugar and use low-fat milk to reduce the calories. Kaju katli can be an occasional treat, while one needs to do portion control when it comes to rice kheer.

Source: **Ritika Samaddar**, chief clinical nutritionist, Max Healthcare

MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGHS AND RESEARCH THAT GAVE US HOPE IN 2024

Cutting-edge CAR-T cell cancer therapy, now made in India

That too, at one-tenth the cost. Mumbai-based biotech company ImmunoACT came up with NexCAR19 — a desi version of the chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy first brought out in the US. Used mainly to treat blood cancer so far, this cutting-edge treatment is also effective for brain cancer and autoimmune diseases. NexCAR19 offers hope for low and middle-income countries that cannot afford prohibitively expensive cancer treatment.

Augmented reality for weight-loss surgery

In another first, a bariatric surgeon from Delhi used an Apple Vision Pro augmented reality device to perform weight-loss surgery on a 45-year-old patient who weighed 155kg. The interactive 3D environment provided by AR helped the surgeon see complex anatomical structures with much greater clarity.

New gene therapy restores UK toddler's hearing

Opal Sandy had lived all 18 months of her life without being able to hear anything, until a 16-minute surgery gave her a working copy of the gene thought to have caused her deafness. Now, she can hear almost perfectly. More deaf children in the UK, Spain, and the US will participate in this gene therapy trial over the next five years.

Egypt becomes malaria-free

"The disease that plagued pharaohs now belongs to its history," WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in October after certifying that almost 100 years of anti-mosquito efforts have finally rid Egypt of malaria. It's the third country in the WHO's eastern Mediterranean Region to get a clean bill, following the UAE and Morocco

Japan uses stem cells for cornea transplant; three get sight back

A Japanese ophthalmologist took donor blood cells and turned them into corneal epithelial cells that were successfully transplanted in three people with severely damaged corneas in a global first. All three have greatly improved vision now, with no major side effects. Clinical trials are planned in March to further assess the treatment's efficacy.

Delhi beagle gets hybrid heart surgery

Juliet, a seven-year-old beagle afflicted with Mitral valve disease, underwent a minimally-invasive Transcatheter Edge-to-Edge Repair (TEER) in Delhi, an entirely image-guided procedure dubbed the first in Asia and the second in the world. The common heart condition is a major cause of canine deaths worldwide. This hybrid 'beating heart' surgery was first performed at Colorado state university a couple of years ago.

Mumbai teen gets 1st shoulder-level arm transplant

Anamta Ahmad, a 15-year-old from Goregaon, Mumbai was the first in the world, and the youngest to get a shoulder-level arm transplant after touching a live wire caused critical burns in her right arm. "Her muscles, blood vessels and nerves were severely damaged. We almost had to work inside the chest to repair them," said plastic surgeon Dr Nilesh Satbhai who performed her transplant in September.

First pig-to-human kidney transplant

After decades of attempts to heal humans with nonhuman organs, Richard Slayman, a 62-year-old man with kidney disease, became the first person ever to undergo a successful pig kidney transplant. Slayman had a good recovery and was able to stop dialysis, doctors said, but he died from his late-stage condition two months later.

TECHNOLOGY FOR HEALTH

Sleep apnea? Neuro implants promise good night's rest

Nearly a billion people around the world suffer from sleep apnea, a common disorder in which breathing stops and starts frequently while sleeping. And that includes around 104 million Indians. The condition is usually treated with continuous positive airway pressure or CPAP machines that come with masks blowing pressurised air through the nose and throat while sleeping. It's not the most comfortable way to get a good night's rest.

But now, some breakthroughs offer hope. In December, medics from University College London Hospitals NHS foundation trust (UCLH) fitted two patients with an app-controlled stimulator that zaps nerves in the tongue so that patients can breathe uninterrupted while sleeping. The implant called Genio was devised by medtech company Nyxoah.

Broadly, there are two kinds of sleep apnea — obstructive sleep apnea (OSA) and central sleep apnea (CSA). OSA is more common and happens

when the throat muscles relax and block air flow into the lungs. This results in choking sounds, loud snoring and waking up frequently during the night. It has deadlier effects too, increasing risk of developing heart disease, stroke, diabetes and even cancer, and perhaps most important of all, car accidents, as such patients often fall asleep at the wheel. Chip implants like Genio are specifically for OSA, having four parts — neurostimulator, activation chip, charging unit and adhesive patches.

The neurostimulator is surgically inserted, and its electrodes are put in contact with the hypoglossal nerve which makes the tongue move. An external activation chip is attached under the chin at night with an adhesive patch. The chip stimulates the nerve while sleeping, which prevents the tongue from falling back and blocking the upper airway.

CSA happens when the brain doesn't send proper signals to the diaphragm that controls breathing.



WAKE-UP CALL
104m Indians
 or 11% of the population suffer from obstructive sleep apnea, according to a 2023 AIIMS study

The symptoms of both kinds overlap, including gasping for air while sleeping, insomnia, daytime sleepiness, headache in the morning and irritability. Allegheny Health Network, a healthcare company from Pennsylvania, has come up with

the Remede implant, a pacemaker-like device specifically made for CSA patients.

"In severe cases, breathing may stop for up to 90 seconds, triggering the body's fight-or-flight response, which then affects the cardiovascu-

lar system," said Daniel Shade, sleep medicine specialist and director of the Allegheny Health Network Sleep Disorders Centre, in a press release.

The remede device sends small electrical currents to the diaphragm to stimulate normal breathing rhythms. A cardiac electrophysiologist implants the battery-powered device under the skin of the upper chest in a minimally invasive procedure. The first implant was done in Pittsburgh in Dec 2023. "This system has been clinically proven to improve a patient's quality of life, reduce daytime sleepiness, and minimise disrupted breathing events," Shade added.

In another development, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently approved the first drug to treat obstructive sleep apnea. It's a weight-loss drug called Zepbound (tirzepatide) which, by helping people lose fat around the airway, reduces the number of times their breathing gets obstructed. AGENCIES

ASK YOUR DOCTOR

'In 9 out of 10 cases, lifestyle changes can cure back pain'

Chronic lower back pain is a leading cause of disability around the world, according to The World Health Organisation (WHO), and the second most common cause for hospital visits. It's a bane for most Indians, hindering daily chores, social lives and work. **Dr G Balamurali**, consultant spine surgeon at Kauvery Hospital, Chennai speaks to **Pushpa Narayan** about how serious the problem is and the solutions

Why is lower back pain on the rise globally?

It's owing to lifestyle changes, bad posture, obesity and poor road conditions, among other reasons. According to the WHO, back pain affected 619 million people globally in 2020 and is estimated to increase to 843 million cases by 2050. Eight out of 10 people will suffer an episode of back or neck pain after the age of 45. Over 90% of patients suffer from non-specific lower back pain that cannot be attributed to any underlying disease, tissue damage or pathology.

Is surgery a cure?

I may advise surgery for back injuries caused by accidents or diseases such as tuberculosis, or for those with anatomical changes due to disc bulge. However, nine out of 10 people with non-specific pain are advised an active lifestyle, with exercise and physiotherapy for muscle strengthening and spine rehabilitation. Posture changes such as adjusting the height of a kitchen counter; changing office chairs or pillow size; avoiding heavy weights, bending or twisting over in wrong posture; and keeping weight under control may also be recommended.

What causes back pain? Do women complain of it more often than men?

At least 66% of Indians suffer from mild, acute or chronic lower back pain, higher than the global average of 46%. It can affect people of all ages but is more common in those above 50, with women experiencing it more often than men. Various factors are responsible — short stature, bad roads, obesity,

lack of exercise and smoking, among others. In India, more women have lower back pain post-pregnancy as they don't get back to normal weight and fitness levels to keep their back muscles strong. Household chores women do here involve bending, twisting and carrying weights, which increases risks. Osteoporosis occurs early in women and can cause spine fractures and pain due to weak bones. But patients must know that it can be cured if they maintain a good lifestyle.

Isn't back pain a serious health problem then?

Nearly 95% of back pain is not serious and doesn't need surgery or intensive care, but it must not be ignored. Kids with continuous back pain and elders with sudden onset of pain should be taken to a doctor. If there's pain and numbness radiating to your leg and if you're unable to pass urine or stool, you need immediate medical attention.

Patients often come to me while going through divorce or depression, as back pain takes a huge mental toll as well.



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THE TIMES

JAN 1

Happy New Year

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ACTORS BRAD PITT & ANGELINA JOLIE SIGN OFF ON A DIVORCE SETTLEMENT, ENDING A CONTENTIOUS 8-YR-LONG LEGAL DISPUTE, 20

Mumbai fog over sea, fish flee to warmer waters

A fog that has blanketed a vast expanse of the Arabian sea, off Mumbai's coast, has made the fish move towards warmer waters, forcing fishermen to venture up to 200km for a catch. Bombay duck, for instance, typically caught near Versova, is now found beyond Palghar, towards Gujarat. **P 8**

Leopard at Infosys campus, staff WFH

A leopard was sighted at the Infosys campus in Mysuru early Tuesday, sending foresters, police and drones on a hunt to trap the big cat. CCTV footage showed the animal some 100m from the hostel on the campus. The campus was closed and staff asked to work from home for the day. **P 8**

Singhvi backs plan on judges' appts

Top lawyer and Congress functionary Abhishek Manu Singhvi has backed the proposal to pause appointment of high court judges from among those whose parents or close relatives are or were judges themselves, to give first-generation lawyers a chance to become constitutional court judges. **P 11**

Andhra tourist killed at Goa shack

A 30-year-old visitor from Andhra Pradesh was killed in a drunken brawl at a beach shack in Calangute in North Goa early Tuesday. A 23-year-old shack worker has been arrested. Police said a fight broke out after the inebriated tourists demanded food though the shack was closed for the day. **P 11**

WELCOMING NEW YEAR WITH A SPLASH



Tourists throng Goa's Calangute-Baga beach to witness the last sunset of 2024 on Tuesday. In Delhi, some parts of the city continued to reel under 'cold day' conditions on New Year eve as day temperatures stayed below normal with a light fog layer keeping the sun partially screened. Narela recorded the lowest maximum temperature at 14.3 degrees C, 6 notches below normal. Expect a gusty start to the New Year as chilly winds of 25-35kmph are likely with cold day conditions in some places. However, freezing night temperatures typical of New Year time in the capital are unlikely over the next few days | **P 2**

SC gives Pjb 3 more days to hospitalise Dallewal

New Delhi: Supreme Court on Tuesday granted Punjab govt three more days to implement the direction to hospitalise farmer representative Jagjit Singh Dallewal, on fast-on-to-death for more than a month, but did not take cognisance of the state's attempt to involve the Centre in breaking the impasse, **reports Dhananjay Mahapatra.** Punjab AG Gurminder Singh informed a bench of Justices Surya Kant and Sudhanshu Dhulia that the intervenors had gone to the protest site and met the farmer leaders and representatives. "As per the intervenors, Dallewal is agreeing to take medical help if the Centre invites the farmers for talks on MSP," he said. The Justice Kant-led bench said, "Punjab govt is

Unified national mkt in draft agri policy


Three years after repealing the farm laws, Centre has come out with a draft policy framework on agriculture marketing hinting states move towards a "unified national market for agriculture produce" through single licensing and single fee. **P 11** seeking three days more to implement the court's (Dec 20) order and achieve the desired results. Taking into consideration the totality of circumstances and in the interest of justice, we are inclined to accept the request for grant of three days more time." **►Snubs Pjb 'plea', P 18**

SGPC panel goes soft on man who tried to kill Badal

Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee's executive committee reversed Tuesday its decision to excommunicate Narain Singh Chaura, who attempted to assassinate Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) functionary Sukhbir Singh Badal outside Amritsar's Golden Temple on Dec 4. The Dec 9 resolution urging the Akal Takht jathedar to excommunicate Chaura from the Panth was annulled without citing any reason for doing so. The executive committee also discussed the killing of three suspected pro-Khalistan operatives from Punjab in a shootout with police in Uttar Pradesh and demanded a judicial inquiry into the deaths. **P 8**

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‘Water warrior’: This blind Good Samaritan has saved 13 people from drowning in Bihar

Manoj Chaurasia
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Patna: Many others might have drowned if they faced the kind of crosscurrents that Bhullu Sahni, who suffers from congenital blindness, has in his life. But the doughty man from Bihar’s Samastipur has instead created a splash with his rescue acts in rivers and ponds, earning the sobriquet of “Jal Vodha” (water warrior). Magical powers possess Bhullu Sahni when he dives in, seemingly inexplicable skills that have led him to save 13 people from drowning in the past five years.



I'm gifted with rare cognitive skills, which I leverage to save people in distress, says Bhullu Sahni

“What if I can’t see? I am gifted with rare cognitive skills, which I leverage to save people in distress. As soon as I enter a water body, a special sense to navigate and identify the missing person is triggered inside me. Something shining appears under the wa-

ter and I rush to rescue it,” said Bhullu, who has risked his life and retrieved 14 bodies that had met watery graves. Such SOSs are not rare in Samastipur, a district crisscrossed by Ganga, Budhi Gandak, Bagmati and Kamla rivers. This means Bhullu, with his unique swimming techniques and fearless approach, remains a go-to man in crisis. Bhullu comes from the “Mallah” (fisherman) community and lives in Patori block’s Dumduma village. He said his father Kailu Sahni introduced him to swimming and fishing at an early age. In due course, he mastered the art, turning his affinity into

life-saving skills. “People reward me with Rs 1,500 to Rs 2,000 for one rescue act. I am happy with it as this helps me meet my ends,” Bhullu said. Local Chaksaho panchayat head Jago Devi hailed Bhullu’s Samaritan spirit, saying people rush straight to him for help whenever there are reports of someone drowning, and he never disappoints. “We have reported the rare skills of Bhullu and his benevolent acts to the district administration and sought help for him. However, nothing has come so far,” Devi said. When not wading into waters, Bhullu and his kin get by selling fish and local produce.

A Parsi family that knows all about booze in Pakistan

Businessman-Politician
Isphanyar Bhandara
Tells The Story Of A
Community And A Distillery

Avijit Ghosh@timesofindia.com

In 1947, when the British transferred power to India and Pakistan, many businesses also changed hands. One of them was Murree Brewery, among the oldest distilleries in Asia, which was then largely owned by a British family. The Bhandaras of Lahore became its new owners. They were a Parsi family that had thrived in the liquor business.

Isphanyar Bhandara now runs Pakistan’s top brewery. He recently made a brief halt in New Delhi on his way to Nepal. “It’s my tenth visit to India,” the businessman-politician said cheerfully, a Pakistan flag lapel pin on his coat the only green in his otherwise blue attire.

Liquor business is heavily regulated in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. About 96% of the country’s population is Muslim. The brewery, accordingly, points out on its website, “Under the country’s laws Pakistan Muslims are prohibited from consuming alcoholic drinks. Non-Muslims and foreigners require a consumption permit.”

Nonetheless, the business has been rewarding for the Bhandaras. “The forbidden fruit is always sweet,” said Isphanyar. “We make beers from Australian barley. Our vodkas and single malts are also doing very well. It’s all about quality. We also make and export fruit juice and are heavily into (bottled) water,” he added.

Dwindling Community

Success though hasn’t been limited to the arena of trade. Isphanyar is also a member of the Pakistan National Assembly. His father was a central minister under Zia-ul-Haq in the 1980s and an MP during the Pervez Musharraf regime.

But, as a community, the Parsis have wilted. In 1947, Isphanyar says, about 20,000-25,000 of them lived in Pakistan. Like in India, they played a major role in nation-building, especially in cities like Karachi. They were among the top businessmen and jurists and were engaged in philanthropic work. In the 19th century, Parsis were also among the early cricketers of Karachi. According to an article in scoreline.org, a team of Parsi cricketers toured England in 1886. In 1952, when Pakistan’s cricket team toured India, southpaw batter Rusi Dinshaw was part of the squad, although he didn’t get to play a Test.

“Today, we are less than 1,000,” says Isphanyar. “Most of the Parsi population is in its 80s or 90s, a bit like the Japanese. There are very few young Parsis in Pakistan today,” he said.

Many left due to economic reasons, others due to law and order issues. One such migrant was the renowned writer



VINTAGE STUFF: The ruins of one of the earliest structures to house Murree Brewery in Pakistan’s Murree tehsil. Isphanyar Bhandara (right), the company’s CEO, is also a member of the Pakistan National Assembly



border,” he said.

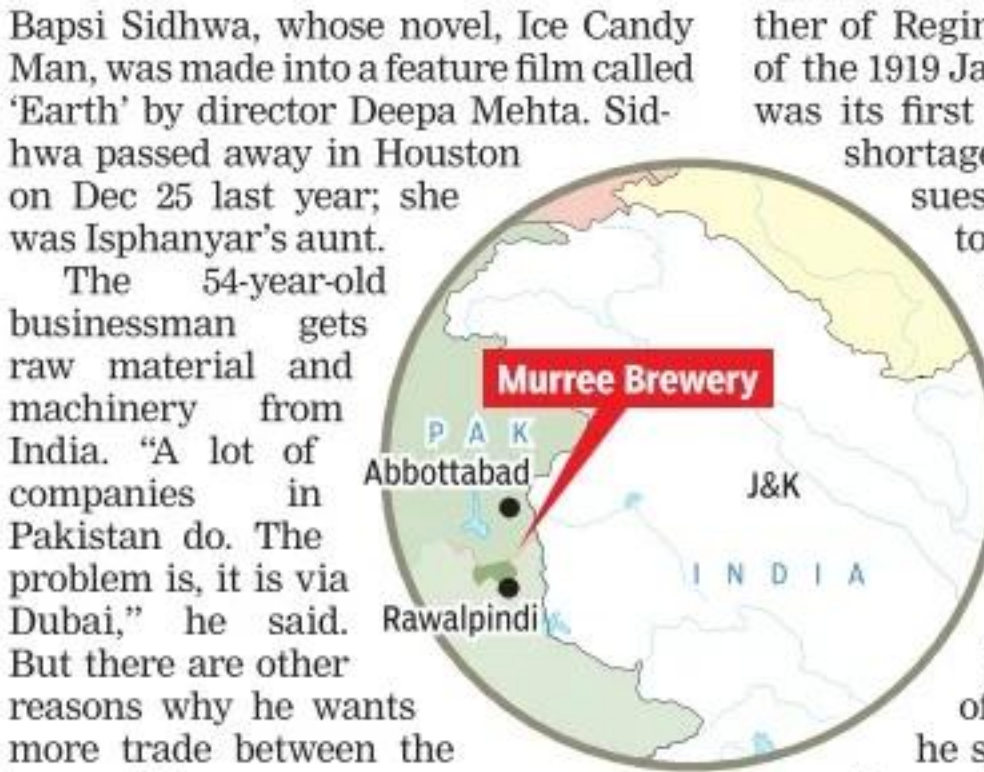
More business will benefit the underprivileged, he believes. “We need it for the common man — dal, roti, cheeni, stuff like that. It will lower the inflation in Pakistan. I’ve made my presentations to our Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif saab. I’m keeping my fingers crossed,” he said.

Not many know that the brewery — it gets its name from the scenic resort town — was set up in 1860, just three years after the 1857 revolt, to mainly service British troops. Edward Dyer, father of Reginald Dyer, the perpetrator of the 1919 Jallianwala Bagh massacre, was its first manager. By 1890, water shortage and other logistical issues had forced the distillery to shift to the Rawalpindi area, where it continues to be headquartered.

There was a time when Murree Beer was sold in India. “In fact, Pakistan railways had put up tracks inside the brewery that used to carry beer to places like Kabul, Amritsar and, of course, to Karachi port,” he said. But the state of politics and, consequently, policies, changed in Pakistan in the late 1970s when, exceptions aside, alcohol was banned. But as reputed Dawn columnist Nadeem Paracha wrote in 2013, “Despite the violence and the eventual prohibition on the (open) sale of alcohol and bars in Pakistan in April 1977, Pakistanis never did stop drinking.”

About two decades back, a possible joint venture project proved abortive. “In 2006, when Vijay Mallya (former chairman of United Spirits) visited Pakistan to watch a cricket match, the prospect of doing something together was broached with my father. But politics did not allow them to come together,” he said.

Political relations between the two countries have further dipped now. But Isphanyar is an optimist. He wants the situation to improve. And more Indo-Pak trade, he insists, is the way to begin.



Bapsi Sidhwa, whose novel, Ice Candy Man, was made into a feature film called ‘Earth’ by director Deepa Mehta. Sidhwa passed away in Houston on Dec 25 last year; she was Isphanyar’s aunt. The 54-year-old businessman gets raw material and machinery from India. “A lot of companies in Pakistan do. The problem is, it is via Dubai,” he said. But there are other reasons why he wants more trade between the two neighbours.

Bridges Of Business

“We can disagree on Kashmir, put it on the back burner. We don’t have to concede our position and India doesn’t

Murree Brewery, which passed into the hands of the Bhandaras of Lahore in 1947, was set up in 1860. Edward Dyer, father of Reginald Dyer, the perpetrator of the 1919 Jallianwala Bagh massacre, was its first manager

have to concede theirs. But we should keep the baggage of history aside and look at the common good of the common people. We should open the Wagah

Report links India to anti-Muizzu plot, Maldives ex-prez denies it

MEA Mum, But
Govt Sources
Rubbish Claim

TNN & AGENCIES

New Delhi: Former Maldives president Mohamed Nasheed has dismissed a Washington Post report alleging that the opposition sought \$6 million from India to aid in a plot to impeach Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu.

The former Maldives president stated he was unaware of any “serious plot” against President Muizzu and added that India would never support such a move.

“I read with interest today’s Washington Post article. I was unaware of any plot against the President, though some people always live in conspiracy. India would never back such a move, as they always support Maldives’ democracy. India has never dictated terms to us, either,” Mohamed Nasheed wrote on X. The Washington Post re-



File photo of Maldives President Muizzu with PM Modi. Washington Post reported that the Maldives opposition sought \$6m from India to help impeach Muizzu. But ex-president Nasheed said India has always supported Maldives’ democracy and would never back any such move

port stated that Maldivian opposition politicians proposed bribing 40 MPs, including those from Muizzu’s own party, to vote to impeach him.

There was no official reaction from MEA to the report that appeared on Monday. Sources in the govt, however, strongly denied that India might have played a role in the alleged efforts to oust Muizzu. India’s relations with the strategically located neighbour in the Indian Ocean have been looking up since PM Modi invited Muizzu for his swearing-in in June and the subse-

quent state visit by the president to India. During his visit to India, Muizzu said in an interview to TOI that he will never do anything to hurt India’s security interests.

“In an internal document titled ‘Democratic Renewal Initiative’ and obtained by The Washington Post, Maldivian opposition politicians proposed bribing 40 MPs, including those from Muizzu’s own party, to vote to impeach him. The document proposed paying 10 senior army and police officers and three powerful criminal gangs to ensure

Muizzu’s removal. To pay off the various parties, the conspirators sought 87 million Maldivian rufiyaa, or \$6 million, and according to two Maldivian officials, it would be sought from India,” Washington Post report alleged.

The report also claimed that a senior officer from India’s intelligence agency, R&AW, “explored” a plan to overthrow President Muizzu months after he assumed office.

“In Jan, after Muizzu took office, an adviser to Muizzu family said, a R&AW officer at India’s embassy in Washington explored a plan to overthrow the president with two Indian intermediaries who had political and business contacts in Maldives. One intermediary was Shirish Thorat, a former police officer who has worked as a private military contractor and advised Mohamed Nasheed when he was Maldivian president on how to curb Islamist radicalisation. The other was Savio Rodrigues, a Goa-based publisher who earlier served as a spokesperson for governing BJP,” the report alleged.



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A South Korean court issues warrants to detain impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol and search his office & residence over allegations of rebellion in connection with his short-lived declaration of martial law, P 20

A blackout hit nearly all of Puerto Rico on New Year's eve, leaving over 1.3m residents in the dark. Officials say it could take up to 2 days to restore power, P 20

HEALTH+
Protein is trending in India, and it is exactly what the country needs, P 26

Ruben Amorim calls it 'embarrassing' as a Man U manager to be discussing threat of relegation, but after 0-2 Premier League loss to Newcastle, he concedes that is the reality his team are facing, P 24

Indian Grandmaster R Vaishali surprises herself with a stellar performance to enter quarterfinals of World Blitz Championship, even as recently-crowned rapid champion Koneru Humpy makes an early exit, P 23

Cart Before The (Prancing) Horse



A couple from Mumbai driving a Ferrari California T on Revdanda beach in Raigad, Maharashtra, found themselves stuck in the sand, only to be rescued by a bullock cart. A video clip of the Dec 28 incident has gone viral on social media. The Ferrari owner, Abhishek Tapadia, faces charges of reckless driving. **TNN**

Half-a-dozen big mission launches in 2025: Minister

Space minister Jitendra Singh said Tuesday that half-a-dozen big missions have been lined up for launches in early 2025 that will include sending a female robot to space as a prelude to Gaganyaan manned mission & launching the world's most expensive satellite, NISAR. **P14**

New Dec high for Del peak power demand

The plummeting temperature in Delhi has raised power demand to new heights, with Tuesday clocking a peak of 5,213MW, the highest ever for Dec, discom officials said. **P2**

Chinese hackers stole docus: US

The US Treasury Dept said Chinese hackers remotely accessed several of its workstations and unclassified documents after compromising a third-party software service provider. **P20**

CM Biren apologises to Manipur strife victims

'Let's Begin New Year On Note Of Reconciliation'

Manash Gohain & Kangkan Kalita | TNN

New Delhi/Guwahati: Manipur CM N Biren Singh expressed "regret" and apologised to people of the state Tuesday for nearly 20 months of intermittent ethnic bloodletting on his watch, saying it was time now to "forgive and forget" as the BJP-led govt builds on the "improvement in law and order and focuses on development". "Many people have lost their loved ones, many left their homes behind...Being their CM, I feel the pain of the innocent people," he said. "Let's begin the New Year on a reconciliatory note and work towards peace," he added, citing statistics suggest-



ing the state had rebounded from the horrors of the conflict since May 3, 2023, in which over 250 people died, many women were raped, villages burned and people displaced. Comparing the period May to Oct 2023 and May 2024 to date, Singh said Manipur reported fewer deaths (down from 178 to 12) and injuries (1,429 to 160) in violence this year.

► 'Infiltrators threat', P 18

Women clash with forces, 40 wounded

At least 40 people were wounded Tuesday during a clash between security forces and women protesters in Kangpokpi district of Manipur after a bid to dismantle what residents termed as "community bunkers" in Saibol-Twishing area. Security sources said these were used by gunmen for attacks. **P18**

Cong: Why can't PM go to state, apologise?

After the Manipur CM's apology, Congress asked why PM Modi couldn't go to the state and do the same. "He has deliberately avoided visiting the state since May 4, 2023, even as he jets around the country and the world," Congress's Jairam Ramesh said in a post on X. **PTI**

Pocso invoked 8 yrs after FIR, HC calls it 'shameful'

Ahmedabad: The Gujarat high court called "prima facie strange and also shameful" invocation of charges under Pocso Act in a case of sexual offence against a minor, eight years after FIR was lodged and trial was nearing completion. The case is from Mehsana town, north Gujarat, where a 15-year-old lodged a complaint against four people for outraging her modesty in Jan 2016. The accused were charged under IPC provisions, but the fact that the survivor was a minor was overlooked.

► 'Casual approach', P 12

IN THE COURTS

► Delhi court grants bail in a case of causing grievous hurt, says **accused joined probe when called** and could not be arrested without specific recorded reason | **P 6**

► K'taka HC stays probe against IIM-B faculty members in case of **bias** alleged by Dalit associate professor | **P 11**

► K'taka pvt bus passenger to be paid over ₹1 lakh for **'mental agony, hardship & financial loss'** he suffered due to **bug bites** on a journey in 2022 | **P 8**

PM: Will work harder on Viksit Bharat dream

New Delhi: PM Modi welcomed the new year by saying "we are determined to work even harder in 2025 and realise our dream of a Viksit Bharat". He will chair the first Cabinet meeting of 2025, and that of the Cabinet Committee on Security, Wednesday, the first day of the new year, and some important decisions are likely to be taken, sources said. On a video post by MyGovIndia on X, Modi said, "Collective efforts and transformative outcomes! 2024 has been marked by many feats which have been wonderfully summed up in this video."

► Infra boost, P 18

MAGA hardliners now target OPT for int'l students

MAGA nativists are taking aim at the OPT (Optional Practical Training) programme that helps foreign students and graduates, many from India, stay back in the US to gain work experience, even as the optics surrounding the H-1B guest worker visa is changing rapidly, reports Chidanand Rajghatta. After a fierce campaign against the H-1B visa programme, hardliners are putting the OPT programme, seen as a precursor to H-1B, under the lens. Foreign students who come to the US on an F1 visa are eligible to participate in OPT after the first academic year and remain in the US — for up to 3 years in case of STEM grads — to gain work experience. **P20**

Kejriwal launches 'registrations' for priest scheme

Performs Puja At Temple, Celebrates Mahant's Birthday

New Delhi: AAP's national convenor Arvind Kejriwal launched registrations for the 'Pujari-Granthi Samman Yojana' at Marghat Wale Baba Hanuman Mandir, near ISBT, Tuesday along with his wife Sunita Kejriwal, who performed puja at the temple, reports Abhinav Rajput. He had announced the "guarantee" of a monthly allowance of Rs 18,000 for priests and granthis Monday if AAP returned to office. In a coincidence, it was the birthday of the mahant at the temple. "I also celebrated his birthday with him."



BJP slams Kejriwal: He's 'chunavi Hindu'

On AAP's outreach to priests, Delhi BJP accused former CM Kejriwal of embracing Hinduism only during elections, labelling him a "chunavi Hindu". VHP also alleged that the move was a ploy to garner electoral support by exploiting religious sentiments. **P4**

The BJP tried its best to stop the registrations today but no one can stop a devotee from meeting his god," said Kejriwal on X.

Meanwhile, CM Atishi visited Gurdwara Sahib in Karol Bagh for beginning registration of granthis and prayed for "landslide victory" for AAP in assembly polls.

► 'People protested', P 4

'Biwi bhaag jayegi': Adani's take on work-life balance

Ahmedabad: Adani Group chairman Gautam Adani has offered a humorous take on the much-debated subject of work-life balance that has been raging on in the Indian corporate world. Insisting that enjoying one's work is essential to achieving work-life balance, Adani quipped in a media interview, "Aath ghanta family ke saath bitayega toh biwi bhaag jayegi (Wife will run away if eight hours are spent with family)." Adani said work-life balance is a matter of personal choice. "Your idea of work-life balance should not be imposed

"Your work and life are balanced when you do things that you like doing. For us, it is either family or work; we don't have a world other than that."

—Gautam Adani

on me and my idea shouldn't be imposed on you. Say, someone spends 4 hours with family and finds joy in it, or if someone else spends 8 hours and enjoys it, that is their work-life balance..." **TNN**

► **NRN suggestion, P 18**



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Raisina Bengali School marks 100-year milestone | 6



TIMES CITY

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DELHI AQI ON TUESDAY (POOR CATEGORY)

DJB plans technical audit for sewage systems | 6



At 5,213MW, peak power demand at new Dec high

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The plummeting temperature in Delhi has raised power demand to new heights, with Tuesday clocking a peak of 5,213MW, the highest ever for Dec, discom officials said. For the first time in Delhi's history, the peak power demand in Dec crossed the 5,000MW mark on Monday.

According to State Load Dispatch Centre (SLDC), the demand stood at 5,213MW at 10.50am on Tuesday, after touching 5,046MW on Monday. Delhi's peak power demand in Dec was 4,884MW in 2023 and 4,964MW in 2022, discom officials said.

The winter months in Delhi are expected to follow the record-breaking summer trend in the peak power demand, which reached an unprecedented peak of 8,656MW this year. Forecasts from SLDC indicate that Delhi's peak power demand this winter could surpass 6,300MW, setting a new seasonal high, officials said.

"Last winter, the peak hit 5,816MW, marking the highest level recorded in the national capital. Within BRPL and BYPL areas, winter peaks previously hit 2,529MW and 1,210MW, respectively. This winter, they are projected to exceed 2,600MW for BRPL and 1,240MW for BYPL," said a BSES official.

Tata Power-DDL said it successfully met this winter season's peak power demand of 1,646MW on Tuesday without any power outage or network constraint.

A senior discom official said the increase was due to decreased temperatures, and around 50% of the load was heating load, which meant an increased number of people were using geysers and heaters. BSES discom officials said they focusing on strategic power planning, precise demand forecasting, and maintaining a robust distribution network.

On New Year's Day, Expect Cold Day To Give City A Miss

AQI Dips To Poor From Moderate, Fog Likely For A Few Days

Priyangi Agarwal
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New Delhi: Parts of Delhi reeled under cold day conditions on the last day of the year. As wind speed reduced, Delhi's Air Quality Index (AQI) worsened from 173 in the moderate category on Monday to 283 in the poor category on Tuesday.

The maximum temperature at Safdarjung, which is the city's base station, was 17.7 degrees Celsius, three notches below normal. At 14.3 degrees Celsius, six degrees below normal, Narela recorded the lowest maximum temperature.

Several areas recorded 'cold day' to 'severe cold day' for the second consecutive day on Tuesday. India Meteorological Department considers it a cold day when the minimum temperature is below 10.1 degrees Celsius and the departure of maximum temperature from normal is 4.5 degrees or above. A severe cold day is declared when the departure of maximum temperature from normal is 6.5 degrees or above.

The criteria for a cold day was not met at Safdarjung on Tuesday, but four stations recorded it. While Narela (14.3) and Najafgarh (14.5) reeled under severe cold day conditions, Palam and Pusa witnessed a cold day with maximum temperatures settling at 14.9 and 15.3 degrees Celsius, respectively.

"Winds are expected to rise to 25-35 kmph during the daytime on Wednesday. Cold day conditions are unlikely on Wednesday, as the maximum temperature may see a slight rise," said a Met official.

The minimum temperature at Safdarjung was 9.6 degrees Celsius, three degrees below normal. It was 10.3 degrees Celsius a day earlier. However, Ayanagar witnessed

AIR QUALITY WON'T GET BETTER SOON

Stations where cold day to severe cold day were recorded on Tuesday

Locations & maximum temperatures (°C)

Narela	14.3
Najafgarh	14.5
Palam	14.9
Pusa	15.3



Photo: Rajesh Mehra

WHAT IS A COLD DAY?

Cold day Minimum temperature below 10.1°C and maximum temperature 4.5°C or more below normal

Severe cold day Maximum temperature 6.5°C or more below normal

> Cold day to severe cold day conditions were observed at isolated areas for second consecutive day on Tuesday



> The maximum temperature at Safdarjung was 17.7°C — 3°C below normal



> AQI deteriorated from 173 (moderate) on Monday to 283 (poor) on Tuesday



> Delhi's air quality is expected to remain in the poor category until Jan 2



the lowest minimum in the city at 6.6 degrees Celsius.

The winter chill has intensified in the city following the recent rain. Several northern states are reeling under a cold wave with snowfall continuing in the hill regions.

In Delhi, the last month of 2024 (till Dec 30) recorded the lowest mean maximum temperature at 22.8 degrees Celsius in three years. The last time the city recorded a lower average maximum temperature than this was in Dec 2021 at 22.4 degrees Celsius.

The Met department has

predicted that the maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 17 and 8 degrees Celsius on Wednesday. "A western disturbance is expected to impact the region from Jan 2-3 and the minimum temperature is likely to rise again," said an official.

IMD has predicted that shallow to moderate fog is likely over the next few days. The minimum temperature may reach around 11 degrees Celsius on Jan 4 and 5, while the maximum temperature may rise to 16 degrees Celsius over the next few days.

According to Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi, which is the forecasting body under the union ministry of earth sciences, the air quality is likely to remain in the poor range till Jan 2, but it may deteriorate to the very poor category on Jan 3.

An AQI reading of 50 or below is classified as good, while readings between 51 and 100 fall in the satisfactory category, and those between 101 and 200 are classified as moderate. Poor air ranges from 201 to 300, very poor from 301 to 400, and severe from 401 to 500.

Annual AQI avg is worse than 2023, same as 2022

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The average Air Quality Index (AQI) was 209 in 2024, which was worse than in 2023 when it was 204. The same average AQI of 209 was also recorded in 2021 and 2022.

"Despite the vagaries of meteorology and weather conditions, the average AQI for 2024 has been the second best, at par with 2021 and 2022, barring the Covid year," said Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) in a statement on Tuesday.

The average AQI was 225 in 2018, 215 in 2019, 185 in 2020, and 209 in 2021 and 2022.

TOI reported on Tuesday that Dec 2024 was the cleanest ever, but the average AQI of 209 in 2024, tied with two other years, was the worst AQI since 2019. No good air day (when AQI is below 51) was recorded in the city in 2024.

CAQM said continual, concerted, and persistent efforts of all the stakeholders throughout the year in 2024 further helped to improve the general air quality in Delhi, as is evident from a record 209 days during 2024 with the AQI falling below 200. In contrast, the number of days when AQI was below 200 were 197 in 2021, 163 in 2022, and 206 in 2023.

"With persistent field-level efforts and targeted policy initiatives for quantified results in the short, medium, and long term, it is expected that the air quality scenario over Delhi will see further gradual but marked improvement, year on year," said CAQM.

CAQM said the year 2024 also witnessed a record low level of episodic events of farm burnings during paddy harvesting season. Number of farm fires recorded during the paddy harvest season 2024 were 10,909 in Punjab, 1,406 in Haryana and a total of 12,750 including NCR areas of UP, Rajasthan and Delhi.

T2 may be closed for repair once T1 ready around April

Saurabh Sinha
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New Delhi: The 1986-era terminal 2 (T2) of Indira Gandhi International Airport is likely to be closed for a few months around April 2025, when the ongoing repair and restoration of T1 — a part of which collapsed last June — is complete and it finally starts getting fully utilised.

While sources say the repair at T2 involves "minor" work in the building and more on the apron side that should take about four-five months, the exact timing of its reopening could well be decided on what impact the upcoming Noida International Airport (NIA) has on traffic at IGIA. In the past also T2 has been mothballed at least twice as T1 and T3 were sufficient to meet the requirement.

The reason: T2 has a capacity to handle 1.5 crore passengers annually (CPA). NIA at Jewar is slated to get operational around mid-2025 with an initial capacity of 1.2 CPA. Unlike Mumbai where the megapolis' CSMA is already handling passengers beyond its capacity and the Navi Mumbai Airport — which also opens around the same time as NIA — will get all additional flights, Noida Airport

is getting operational when IGIA still has a long way to go before it gets saturated. So the impact NIA has on its traffic is being keenly watched by Delhi International Airport Ltd (DIAL) on both its passenger and cargo. It will accordingly determine the timing of the final stage of IGIA's development — demolishing T2 to make way for a much larger T4 with a capacity of 4 CPA in its place.

"Repair at T1 has begun and is expected to be over by April. A few days after that happens and the expanded T1 is put to 100% use, T2 will be shut for repairs on the building and apron side. There could be a time lag between the two events to factor in any teething troubles at T1, which will be fully operational for the first time after its expansion work is completed," say people in the know.

The revamped T1, which saw its capacity doubling to 4 CPA, was inaugurated in March and it was supposed to get fully operational within a couple of months. However, the collapse of a 2009-era canopy on June 28 saw T1 being fully set down and then only the new portion was partially opened a few months later. Now with the repair work targeted to be over by April 2025, that should finally happen this summer.



The revamped T1 at IGIA was inaugurated in March

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Flat Rs. 15,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 3,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 20,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 4,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 25,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 5,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 30,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 6,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 35,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 7,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 40,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 8,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 45,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 9,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 50,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 10,00,000 & above. **IDFC FIRST Bank** – CC EMI: 7.5% discount up to Rs 7,500 on purchase of Rs 3,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 10,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 1,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 20,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 2,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 30,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 3,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 40,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 4,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 50,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 5,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 60,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 6,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 70,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 7,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 80,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 8,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 90,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 9,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 1,00,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 10,00,000 & above. **DC Full swipe:** Flat Rs. 1,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 25,000 & above. **CC/DC EMI:** 7.5% discount up to Rs 2,000 on purchase of Rs 25,000 & above. Flat Rs. 3,500 discount on purchase of Rs. 50,000 & above. Flat Rs. 7,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 1,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 10,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 2,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 15,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 3,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 20,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 4,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 25,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 5,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 30,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 6,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 35,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 7,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 40,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 8,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 45,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 9,00,000 & above. Flat Rs. 50,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 10,00,000 & above. **OneCard** – CC Full swipe: Flat Rs. 1,000 discount on purchase of Rs. 15,000 & above. **CC EMI:** 7.5% discount up to Rs 1,000 on purchase of Rs 15,000 & above. **HDBFS Consumer Durable Loans** – Get cashback up to ₹21,000 on all categories. Offer valid on transactions of ₹18,000 or more. For Bajaj Finance. Cashback up to Rs.30,000 on selected products and selected customers. Offer valid on transaction above ₹15,000 & above. For more details, please reach out to the in-store promoter. Offer is applicable across Reliance digital, My Jio Stores & www.reliancedigital.in from 21st December 2024 to 01st January 2025. Offer valid on select products only. For more details, please reach out to the in-store promoter. Brand Offers: Offers applicable on brands are sole discretion of the respective brands. *GST will be applicable on all the FREE products. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts in Mumbai only.

In Focus Seats With Low Victory Margin

'Constituencies Where Gap In 2020 Poll Was Less Than 10,000 Can Easily Be Won By Either Party'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Stakes are high for the three major political players in the upcoming assembly polls, which are likely to take place in a little over a month. The run-up to the polls has been intense so far with AAP, BJP and Congress striving to outdo each other in the campaign.

In the last two editions, AAP swept the majority vote share and comfortably won the majority of seats, and it has not allowed complacency to affect its campaign so far. While BJP is hoping to turn around its fortunes this time, Congress, which ceded its ground to AAP in the 2015 and 2020 assembly polls, is trying to regain its footing in city politics. Congress failed to win a single seat in the last two elections, and its vote share consistently fell from 40.3% in 2008, when it won 43 seats, to 24.6% in 2013, 9.7% in 2015, and 4.3% in 2020.

In its debut election in 2013, AAP won an impressive 29.5% vote share, which translated into 28 seats. However, the 2015 election proved extraordinary, with the party winning 67 of 70 seats with a vote share of 54.6%. In 2020, AAP's vote share fell

marginally by 1%, and it won 62 seats.

BJP polled 33.1% of votes in 2013 and won 32 seats. While its vote share dropped marginally to 32.8% in 2015, it could barely win three seats. It increased to 38.5% in 2020, and it secured eight seats.

Both AAP and BJP will be hoping to consolidate their vote share in constituencies where they received massive support while eyeing areas where the victory margin was less than 10,000 votes. There were 15 such seats in the last assembly election where the victory margin was less than 10,000, while the number of such seats was just six in the 2015 polls. There were 26 seats where the difference in votes was between 10,001 and 20,000 votes, while in 14 constituencies, the margin was between 20,001 and 30,000 votes. In 15 constituencies, the winner received more than 30,000 votes than their nearest rival, and all such seats were won by AAP.

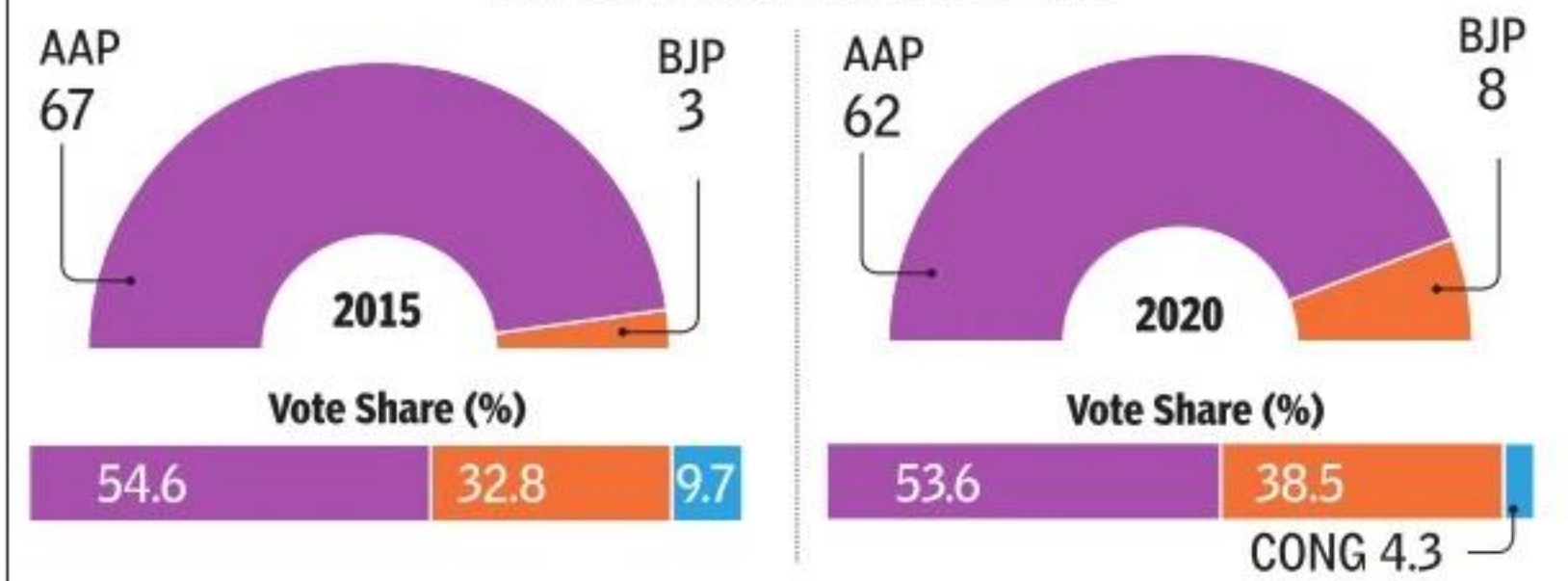
"All those seats where the margin in the last poll is less than 10,000 can easily be won by either party. That's why, apart from the usual campaign and electoral promises by the candidates, groundwork done by the party volunteers

TAKING STOCK BEFORE ASSEMBLY POLLS

WINNING MARGIN IN 2020 ASSEMBLY POLLS

Winning margin (votes)	BJP	AAP	Cong	Total
1-500	0	0	0	0
501-1,000	1	1	0	2
1001-2,000	0	1	0	1
2,001-5,000	1	5	0	6
5,001-10,000	2	4	0	6
10,001-20,000	3	23	0	26
20,001-30,000	1	13	0	14
More than 30,000	0	15	0	15

VOTE SHARE & SEATS: 2015 VS 2020



at the booth level play a major role," said a senior AAP functionary.

"The party leadership has been in constant touch with our workers at the booth level

to ensure that our candidates get maximum votes," he added. AAP has also brought in its

best-performing campaign managers from other states to assist the volunteers in the city.

A senior BJP functionary agreed that the contest would be cut-throat in several constituencies, especially those where the victory margin was low. With Congress hoping to do better than last time, BJP functionaries said they have a fair chance of changing the outcome even in seats where AAP won with a handsome vote share in the last poll. "Since Congress and AAP share a common vote bank, improvement in the former's vote share will directly improve our chances of winning," said a BJP functionary.

In the 2020 polls, Congress contested 66 seats (four went to Rashtriya Janata Dal in a seat-sharing arrangement), and its three candidates polled more than 20,000 votes, while five got between 10,001 and 20,000 votes. While 20 candidates polled 5,001-10,000 votes, 38 were reduced to less than 5,000.

"We will not only impact the outcome on a few seats, but our candidates will also win this time in several constituencies. The result this time will be surprising in Delhi," said a Congress functionary.

BJP cites old videos, calls Kejriwal 'chunavi Hindu', AAP says it's rattled after priest plan

Abhinav.Rajput@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: The Delhi BJP on Tuesday released a series of old videos featuring past speeches by former Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal and other AAP functionaries, accusing them of questioning the construction of the Ram temple in Ayodhya and having contradictory stands on issues related to Hindus.

Purported clips of AAP leaders Sanjay Singh and Manish Sisodia supporting the Shaheen Bagh protests and making controversial remarks about Hindu deities were also shared. BJP leaders claimed these speeches exposed AAP's "anti-Hindu" stance.

Hitting back, AAP claimed, "BJP is rattled because Arvind Kejriwal has announced Rs18,000 per month honorarium for pujaris and granthis, for which the registration process commenced today."

"Instead of hurling abuses at Kejri-

Sachdeva said that Delhi's temple priests were well aware that BJP was their 'own pious party, always standing by them in times of joy and sorrow'

wal morning and evening, BJP should focus on working for the people and, learning from him, implement similar provisions for pujaris and granthis in their 20 states where it governs," it stated.

After playing the videos at a press briefing, Delhi BJP president Virendra Sachdeva said that these "exposed Kejriwal's opportunistic stance on religion, revealing his fake attempts to glorify Hinduism during elections".

"A person who questions the existence of Lord Ram can never be a true proponent of Hindu nationalism. He is built on lies, deceit and manipulation," he alleged.

Sachdeva further called Kejriwal a "chunavi Hindu". "As elections draw closer, Kejriwal suddenly remembers temple priests... But Delhi residents understand that Kejriwal represents lies," he said.

Sachdeva was referring to Kejriwal's announcement of the "Pujari Granthi Samman Yojana", offering Rs 18,000 monthly honorarium for temple priests and gurdwara granthis if AAP wins the upcoming Delhi Assembly polls.

The Delhi BJP president alleged that "Kejriwal repeatedly dishonoured the Hindu community, glorified anti-national elements, and is not only an enemy of Sanatan Dharma but also of the nation's security. Expecting Delhi's prosperity under him is futile."

Sachdeva said Delhi's temple priests were aware that BJP was their "own pious party, always standing by them in times of joy and sorrow, and it is the only party that will respect them and their families."

VHP alleges AAP exploiting religious sentiments for votes

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Criticising AAP's promise to provide salaries to priests and granthis in the city, Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) on Tuesday alleged that the move was a ploy to garner electoral support by exploiting religious sentiments.

"When their promise to provide salaries to imams did not work effectively, they have now set a trap to lure Hindu priests and granthis," VHP spokesperson Vinod Bansal said. He pointed to unfulfilled promises and said benefits assured to religious figures had gone unpaid for the past year and a half, with no clarity on arrears.

Former Delhi chief mini-

ster Arvind Kejriwal announced on Monday that if AAP returned to office, temple priests and gurdwara granthis will receive a monthly salary of Rs18,000.

Bansal accused AAP of using public funds for political gain and said, "They act as if they are giving from their own pockets, whereas the truth is that the hard-earned money of the public is being squandered for their political daydreams." He urged the Election Commission to investigate what he termed "manipulative schemes" designed to deceive voters in the national capital.

"The EC should take note of this deceit, greed and manipulative schemes being spread by these politicians and political parties in the capital," Bansal said.

Ordinary people unhappy, protested against ex-CM: BJP

► Continued from P1

Kejriwal had announced that he would be visiting the Hanuman Temple at Connaught Place but changed the venue at the last minute. The mahant's birthday was cited as the reason.

At the Connaught Place temple, tensions had escalated between AAP and BJP supporters who had gathered in close proximity. While one group chanted "Phir layenge Kejriwal", the other responded with "Gali gali me shor hai, Kejriwal chor hai".

BJP, however, distanced itself from the protesters, describing them as ordinary citizens expressing dissatisfaction with Kejriwal's administration and viewing his actions as mere electoral promises.

"Will abusing me benefit the nation?... Since the announcement of the 'Pujari Granthi Samman Yojana', BJP leaders have been hurling abuses at me," said Kejriwal in his post on X. "My question to them is will abusing me benefit the nation? Your party governs 20 states, including Gujarat, where you've ruled for 30 years. Why haven't you honoured pujaris and granthis there? Start now, I have shown you the way. Instead of abusing me, implement this scheme across your states so that everyone benefits," he said.

Chief minister Atishi, who had gone to the gurdwara, said, "During registration, granthis blessed Arvind Kejriwal and me, saying this

is the first time since Maharaja Ranjit Singh that a govt has thought of granthis."

"Pujaris and granthis are with us through life's joys and sorrows. It is the govt's duty to care for them, which is why this scheme was launched."

AAP's Delhi convener and cabinet minister Gopal Rai, who visited temple pujaris in Vijay Park, said: "This reflects months of deliberation and fulfils long-standing aspirations. AAP's is the first govt to publicly commit to providing a monthly honorarium of 18,000 to all pujaris and granthis."

BJP has questioned the move. Party MP from South Delhi Ramvir Singh Bidhuri said Kejriwal is often asked that when imams are paid salaries, why have pujaris and granthis been ignored. Kejriwal has announced this scheme only to avoid this question, said the MP. "Just as bogus registrations are being done for Mahila Samman Yojana and Sanjeevani Yojana, registration has been announced for this scheme as well," he said.

BJP's New Delhi MP Bansuri Swaraj said, "Why is Kejriwal making promises? If he truly wants to help priests and granthis, he should immediately hold a cabinet meeting and provide them a benefit of 18,000. After all, it's his government."

"He is making election promises for priests, but the imams, for whom salaries were declared earlier, have not been paid for the past 17 months," she claimed.



TOI photo

Atishi, who went to a gurdwara for registration, said this was the first time since Maharaja Ranjit Singh that a govt had thought of granthis

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited by the Executive Engineer, Alipurdur Division, P.H.E. Dte. from the reputed, bonafide, financially sound & experienced agency/firm for the work of "WORKS RELATED TO PWSS" against following NIT No.: 31/ALD/2024-25. Last date of submission for tender 14/01/2025 upto 02:00 p.m. Details may be viewed in the website: <http://www.wbphed.gov.in> website.
ICA-124365(4)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer Midnapore Division, P.H.E. Dte. on behalf of Governor of West Bengal vide Ref. No. PHE/MID/eNIT-14/2024-25 and ID. No. WBPHED/EE/2024-25 for Sinking of Bored Deep Tubewell, Laying of boundary wall, pump house Laying of boundary & rising main pipeline etc. different PWSS under Midnapore Division, P.H.E. Dte. Details will be available in the website: www.wbphed.gov.in The last date for submission of tender is 17.01.2025 upto 18:00 Hours. Sd/- for Executive Engineer, Midnapore Division, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA-124372(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
e-Tender is invited by The Executive Engineer, Mechanical Electrical Division Berhampore P.H.E. Dte. vide Ref. No. WBPHED/EE/MEED/NIT-35 OF 2024-25 and Tender ID: 2024-PHE-792448-1 to 10 for Electro-Mechanical Works for Jal Jiban Mission in different W/S. Scheme. Last date for Submission of Technical and Financial Bid (online): 22.01.2025 upto 3:00 P.M. Date of opening of technical proposal (online): 24.01.2025 after 3:00 P.M. NB: All others of the above NIT no. remain unchanged. All details can be seen from the website: <http://www.wbphed.gov.in> ICA-124367(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
The Director, IPGMR&SSKM Hospital, Kolkata-700020 has issued a tender at 244, A.C. Bose Road, Kolkata-700020 for inviting e-tender for purchase certain equipments for Neonatology and Neurosurgery departments, SKSM Hospital. Tender ID: 2024-PHE-792447-1. For details log on to www.wbphed.gov.in
Sd/- Director IPGMR&SSKM Kolkata-20
ICA-124368(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
TENDER ID-2024_PHE-791232_1 to 4 (JIM Work)
Electronic Notice Inviting Tender No. 22/WBPHED/EE/BO-I/2024-25. Last date of Documents download/sell closing date (Online) is on 15.01.2025 upto 01:00 P.M. Date of opening of technical Proposals (Online) upto 03:00 P.M. Sd/- for Executive Engineer, Berhampore Division-I, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA-124370(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, Hooghly Division, P.H.E. Dte. for NIT No. WBPHED/EE/19/HUG/2024-25 related to miscellaneous works at various PWSS under Hooghly Division P.H.E. Dte. Bid submission Closing Date 16.01.2025 upto 03:00 p.m. & Opening Date 18.01.2025 upto 03:00 p.m. For Details, corrigendum/addendum, participating in the tender log on to www.wbphed.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Hooghly Division, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA-124369(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, Birbhum Division, P.W.D. inviting online Tender vide NIT No. 23 of 2024-25 for the work of: "Emergent installation of Tube Well at Rampurhat Sub-Division office, PWD in the District of Birbhum under Birbhum Division, P.W.D. during the year 2024-2025." Bid submission start date (online) 30.12.2024 after 5:30 P.M. Bid submission end date (online) 03.01.2025 upto 2:00 P.M. Tender ID: 2024-WBPWD-792448-1. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from <http://wbtdender.gov.in> Sd/- Executive Engineer, Birbhum Division, P.W.D.
ICA-124349(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, Alipore Division, P.H.E. Dte. on behalf of Governor, West Bengal vide Ref. No. WBPHED/EE/NIT-85/AD/2024-2025 and Tender ID: 2024-PHE-790304-1 to 3 for Construction of switch room cum chlorine room at the site of Matherghati W/S Scheme (Zone-I), Block-Canning-II under Canning Sub-Div. Of Alipore Division, P.H.E. Dte. Details will be available in the website: wbtdenders.gov.in. The last date for submission of tender is 17.01.2025 upto 03:00 P.M. Sd/- for Executive Engineer, Alipore Division, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA-124364(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Notice Inviting e-Quotation
No. WBPPWD/SS/EE/Bir-e-NIT-03/2024-25, 2nd Recall
(Tender ID-2024_WBPWD-792615_1) The Ex. Engr. Birbhum Divn., PW (S.S.) Dte. invites online Tenders from Bonafide resourceful outsider having credential in similar nature of work for Providing Unarmoured Security Guard for guarding round the clock (one guard at a time) for office premises of the 1) E.E. Bir. Dn., PWSS.Dte., A.E., G.S.D., PWSS.Dte., A.E., B.S.D.-II, PWSS.Dte. at Tilpara, Suri) 2) A.E., B.S.D.-III, PWSS.Dte. at Bolpur 3) A.E., R.S.D., PWSS.Dte. at Rampurhat throughout the year in the district of Birbhum. Bid submission Closing on 18.01.2025, 02:00 P.M. Further details can be seen in website: <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- Ex. Engr., Bir. Divn., P.H.E. Dte.
ICA-124359(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, Alipore Division, P.H.E. Dte. on behalf of Governor, West Bengal vide Ref. No. WBPHED/EE/NIT-84/AD/2024-2025 and Tender ID: 2024-PHE-790197-1 to 3 for Construction of pipe carrying structure with laying, restoration work, construction of pump house etc. under Mega Surface Water Based W/S Scheme for Falta-Mathurapur, District South 24 Parganas under Alipore Division, P.H.E. Dte. Details will be available in the website: wbtdenders.gov.in The last date for submission of tender is 17.01.2025 upto 03:00 P.M. (Online). Details may be available in our website: www.wbtdenders.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Alipore Division, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA-124368(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
WR/IDD, e-NIT
On behalf of the Governor of West Bengal the Executive Engineer (A-I), Chinsurah (A-I) Division, Hooghly invite e-NIT vide Ref. No. WR/IDD/EE(AI)/CHINSURAH (A-I) Division Tender ID 2024_WRDD-792961-1 to 6 consisting of different group in e-Tender from the experienced and bonafide resourceful agencies for Conversion of Pipeline under Core-Sector Programme within Hooghly district. Values of works up to Rs. 21.62.431.00. Last Date of Online submission: 15.01.2025 upto 11 A.M. Details may be seen in the website <http://wbtdender.gov.in> office Notice Board.
Sd/- Executive Engineer (A-I), Chinsurah (A-I) Division, Hooghly
ICA-124386(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
Tender Notice
Executive Engineer, Kolkata South-I Division, Housing Directorate, Inviting Sealed Tender for on behalf of Governor of West Bengal, Ref. e-NIT-16 of 2024-25 of E.E. K.S.D. Dte. Tender ID: 2024-PHE-792727-1. Last date of submission 08/01/2025 Up to 02.00 P.M. For Details please visit wbtdenders.gov.in or contract in the Office of The Executive Engineer in any working day. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Kolkata South-I Division, Housing Directorate.
ICA-124383(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
e-Tenders are invited by the Executive Engineer, South 24-Pgs. W/S Division-I, P.H.E. Dte. vide Ref. No. 39/2024-2025/EE/SWD/WBPHED and ID: 2024-PHE-791210-1 to 6 for Sinking of Rigid bored deep Tubewell, Laying of additional pipeline for parallel connections from main pipeline and Construction of Boundary wall etc. in the underflooded area of P.H.E. Dte. Details will be available in the website: <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> The last date for submission of tender is 15/01/2025 upto 02:00 P.M. Sd/- for Executive Engineer, South 24-Pgs. W/S Division-I, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA-124374(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
Executive Engineer, PWD, Alipurdur Division invites online e-tender for the work of - Kumargang-Jorai Road from Arambagh Road from ch. 42.00 km up to ch. 54.00 km (excluding 2 nos. Rigid Pavement Stretches) in different stretches under Hooghly Construction Sub-Division-I, Arambagh under Hooghly Construction Division, P.W.D. during the year 2024-2025. Estimated Amount: 3711772.00. Tender ID: 2024_PWD-792410-1. NIT No.: WBPPWD/EE/HCD/NIT-26 of 2024-2025. Bid submission start date (online): 31.12.2024 from 11:00 A.M. Bid submission closing date (online): 20.01.2025 upto 2:00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from <http://wbtdender.gov.in> Sd/- EE, PWD, Alipurdur Division.
ICA-124352(4)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWD TENDER NOTICE
EE, PWD, Hooghly Construction Division invites online e-Tender for the work of 1. Patch Repairing work at Kotulpur Arambagh Road from ch. 42.00 km up to ch. 54.00 km (excluding 2 nos. Rigid Pavement Stretches) in different stretches under Hooghly Construction Sub-Division-I, Arambagh under Hooghly Construction Division, P.W.D. during the year 2024-2025. Estimated Amount: 3711772.00. Tender ID: 2024_PWD-792410-1. NIT No.: WBPPWD/EE/HCD/NIT-26 of 2024-2025. Bid submission start date (online): 31.12.2024 from 11:00 A.M. Bid submission closing date (online): 20.01.2025 upto 2:00 P.M. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of NIT and Tender documents may be downloaded from <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> Sd/- S. Roy Pratihar, Executive Engineer, PWD, Hooghly Construction Division, Chawkbazar, Hooghly
ICA-124350(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
WR/IDD e-NIT
Executive Engineer (A-I), Krishnagar-I (A-I) Division, WRDD invites e-tender for following Works: Repairing & Re-laying of Submersible Electric M.W.D. Pump Set and maintenance of pump house, spout chamber with pipe line etc. under Krishnagar-I (A-I) Division within the jurisdiction of Krishnagar (A-I) Circle. Vide e-NIT no.-13 & 14/2024-2025 of the Executive Engineer (A-I), Krishnagar-I (A-I) Division, Krishnagar, Nadi. Tender ID - 2024_WRDD-792732-1 to 4 & 2024_WRDD-792761-1 to 2. Total estimated amount up to tender to Rs. 10,9244 lakh approx. Last dropping date 10.01.2025 up to 15.00 & 14.00 hour. Intending bidders are requested to visit the website <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> for details.
Sd/- T.N. ROY Executive Engineer (A-I) Krishnagar-I (A-I) Division Krishnagar, ICA-124388(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
NIT-24 of 2024-25 EE/NMD-II Ref. Tender ID: 2024_PHE-792794-1 Sealed Tender in WBF No.2911 are invited by EE/NMD-II, PHE Dte., for Deployment of external technical assistance agency for FSSAI Renewal. The detail of work will be available at website www.wbtdenders.gov.in and www.wbphed.gov.in Last date of application is 10/01/2025. Sd/- for Assistant Engineer, Howrah Sadar Sub-Division, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA-124391(4)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
e-TENDER NOTICE
e-Tender is invited by the Executive Engineer, Nadia Arsenic Division-I, P.H.E. Dte. on behalf of Governor of West Bengal vide Ref. No. WBPH/13/NAD-I of 24-25, ID-2024_PHE-791494-1 to 9 for Works under Nadia Arsenic Division-I, P.H.E. Dte. Kalyani, Nadia. Details will be available in the website: <http://wbtdenders.gov.in> The last date for online submission of tender is 13.01.2025 at 12.00 P.M. Sd/- Executive Engineer, Nadia Arsenic Division-I, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA-124373(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
WR/IDD, e-NIT
Executive Engineer (A-M) Burdwan (A-M) Division, WRDD invites e-tender for following work: "Installation of SASTHITALA New Major Handed Over RLI Scheme at Kanksa block Mouza-Rudina under Durgapur (A-E) Sub-Division, under Core-Sector Programme under E.E. (A-M) Burdwan (A-M) Division", vide e-NIT No. 19/WRDD/EE(AI)/BURDWAN(AI) DIVN of 2024-25 and Tender ID: 2024_WRDD-792602-1. Tendered value of Rs. 72,47325 Lakh and Installation of RUPGANJ New Midi Handed Over RLI Scheme at Kanksa block under Durgapur (A-E) Sub-Division of Paschim Bardhaman District under Core-Sector program under E.E. (A-M) Burdwan (A-M) Division, vide e-NIT No. 18/WRDD/EE(AI)/BURDWAN(AI) DIVN of 2024-25 and Tender ID: 2024_WRDD-792546-1. Tendered value of Rs. 43,97945 Lakh. Bid Submission End Date: 20.01.2025 at 15:00 Hrs Respectively. Corrigendum if any will be published in website only. Details of N.I.T. and Tender documents may be downloaded to visit the website <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> for details.
Executive Engineer (A-M) Burdwan (A-M) Division
ICA-124377(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, EASTERN CIRCLE, PHE DTE. NUALAY, PLOT NO. CN-8, SEC-V, SALT LAKE CITY, KOLKATA -700091.
TENDER NOTICE
Tender Ref. No: WBPHED/SE/EC/NIT-58/2024-25
Tender ID: 2024_PHE-789326_1, 2024_PHE-789326_2 & 2024_PHE-789326_3
e-Tenders in WBF 2911 are invited for the work- SL-1: Laying of distribution system including providing FHCT at left out households for Mobarakpur (Mouza-Balarampur, Matpara, Haripur, Mobarakpur) W/S Scheme at Tehatta-I block. SL-2: Laying of distribution system including providing FHCT at left out households for Bahadurpur, Khaspi, Dhophat and Rajapur W/S Scheme and restoration of the damaged portion of roads. SL-3: Augmentation of Khairati (rest) water supply scheme with connection as well as adjoining mousas (if applicable) under Tehatta-I Block in Nadia District under Nadia Arsenic Civil Division-II, P.H.E. Dte. (SI No 1 to 3) & Corrigendum Uploaded. Bid Submission Closing Date (Online): 24.01.2025 at 02:00 p.m. Further details are available in the website: <http://wbtdenders.gov.in/nicpp/app> Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Eastern Circle, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA-124377(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
ABRIDGED TENDER NOTICE
e-NIT is hereby invited by Assistant Engineer, Howrah Sadar Sub-Division, P.H.E. Dte. vide Ref. No. WBPHED/AE/HSSD/NIT-09 OF 2024-25, Memo No-1346/HSSD, Dt: 26/12/2024. Details will be available in the website: www.wbtdenders.gov.in and www.wbphed.gov.in Last date of application is 10/01/2025. Sd/- for Assistant Engineer, Howrah Sadar Sub-Division, P.H.E. Dte.
ICA-124373(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PWR/ID TENDER NOTICE
eNIT No. 21 of 2024-25 of EE/BHD-I/PWR(D) Dte. for 1(One) No. Road Restoration work at 1(One) No. Bunglow Repairing work under Barasat Highway Division No.1, inviting from bonafide bidders having credential for similar nature of work. Bid submission closing date (online) will be on 20/01/2025 upto 13.00 hrs. Tender id: 2024_WBPWD-791952-1/2. Further details may be seen from website <https://wbtdenders.gov.in> or <http://wbphed.gov.in> Sd/- EE/BHD-I/PWR(D) Dte.
ICA-124345(3)/2024

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
PW(Roads)Dte. Tender Notice
Executive Engineer, South 24 Parganas Highway Division, PW(Roads)Dte., invites online e-NIT No.


Don't demolish religious structures, says Atishi; LG's office, BJP hit back



As elected representatives, who are constantly in touch with the people of Delhi, we will ensure that no religious sentiments are hurt

Sachdeva further stated that AAP had questioned the Citizenship Amendment Act ahead of the 2020 assembly polls, "which subsequently led to riots in the city". "Atishi should immediately withdraw her statement," he added.

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01.01.2025
Wednesday

Final Rites at
Nigambodh Ghat, Delhi
11:30 AM

Grief Stricken
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Satyanarain Agarwal (Brother in law)
Lalita Dhanuka (Sister in law)

Mahendra Kumar Dhanuka (Brother in law)
Uma Dhanuka (Sister in law)

Rahul Dhanuka (Son)
Madhuri Dhanuka (Daughter in law)
Shashwat & Shailja (Grand children)


Reema Khowala (Daughter)
Nabin Khowala (Son in law)
Akshat & Naman (Grand children)



Rashmi Gupta (Daughter)
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‘Arrest In Violation Of Law’: Man Gets Relief

Joined Probe Within 24 Hrs Of Notice: Court

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: While granting bail to a man accused in a road rage case, a Delhi court recently said that his custody or arrest was made in clear violation of the mandate of the law. The court of vacation judge Neeraj Sharma, in the order dated Dec 27, said that after being given a notice by police on Dec 7, the accused joined the investigation the same day, and according to law, he could not be arrested without a specific reason recorded by the investigating officer (IO). “On being inquired by this court about the reasons for arresting the applicant or accused despite his having joined the investigation in compliance with the notice, the IO produced the police file for the perusal of this court,

COURT SAYS

The court is of the opinion that once the accused has complied with the said notice, the grave nature of the injury cannot subsequently be a ground for arresting the accused

wherein, in the arrest memo, typed reasons were ticked mechanically for arresting the accused without elaborating upon the grounds for invoking those typed reasons,” said the court. The court was hearing the bail application of the accused, Tarun, against whom the Wazirabad police station registered a case. Noting that once an accu-

sed was served with a notice under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita provisions, there was a presumption that arrest was not required, the court said, “In the present case, as the opinion regarding the grave nature of the alleged injury was very much available with the IO before issuing the notice, this court is of the opinion that once the accused has complied with the said notice, the grave nature of the injury cannot subsequently be a ground for arresting the accused.” The court further added, “The court is of the opinion that the custody of the accused/applicant is a clear violation of the mandate of the law and accordingly, the accused is admitted to bail on furnishing a bail bond in the sum of Rs. 20,000 with one surety in the like amount.”

HC: Lawyers alone not to blame for case delay

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Deprecating the practice of blaming lawyers alone for delays by litigants in approaching courts for legal remedies, Delhi High Court has said that litigants too have a duty to pursue their cases diligently. The division bench of Justices C Hari Shankar and Anoop Kumar Mendiratta made the observation while refusing to entertain a petition filed after a six-year delay. “We emphatically disapprove of this practice of shifting to the shoulders of the counsel the negligence in approaching the court. It is easy, in such circumstances, to file a complaint before the Bar Council and seek to explain away the delay. We deprecate this. A litigant does not abandon all responsibility to keep track of a matter, once it is entrusted to a counsel,” the bench said. The court was not convinced by the litigant’s claims that his lawyer’s alleged neg-

ligence in this case was the ground for delay. The litigant sought to explain the delay by saying that his lawyer was negligent in pursuing the case. The court rejected this explanation. The case pertained to the eligibility of a litigant to join a govt post of the petitioner. His plea in 2016 was initially dismissed in 2018 by a tribunal, after which he claimed that he engaged a lawyer in Delhi to file a challenge in the high court. The petitioner stated that he interacted with the lawyer several times over the phone and that the lawyer gave him false information about the progress of the case. The petitioner told the court that he was unable to personally attend to the case owing to financial hardship. He said that he came to know only in Aug 2024 that his case had not been never filed before the high court. He has said that he has lodged a complaint against the lawyer with the district bar association.

BTech graduate, kingpin of arms racket, arrested


New Delhi: A 35-year-old BTech graduate, Aviral Sharma, working in a multinational company in Noida, was arrested for being the kingpin of an interstate illegal arms and ammunition supply racket. The special cell of Delhi Police also arrested two of his accomplices, Rajesh Choube and Jitender Singh. Police recovered five semi-automatic pistols, 275 live cartridges, mobile phones, and SIM cards from the possession of the accused. The illegal arms were manufactured in Burhanpur, Madhya Pradesh, and were being delivered to Delhi. According to the police, Choube, a 46-year-old resident of Narmadapuram, Madhya Pradesh, was the first to be arrested on Nov 28. He was caught with five semi-automatic pistols and 200 live cartridges near Rohini sector-18 metro station. Choube revealed that he procured the illegal arms from a local supplier in Madhya Pradesh and live cartridges from Aviral Sharma. Sharma was arrested on Nov 30 and 50 live cartridges were recovered from his possession. He disclosed that he also supplied ammunition to Singh, a 42-year-old resident of Dholpur, Rajasthan. TNN

British India’s Raisina Bengali School turns 100


Meghna.Dhulia
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Over a century ago, the shift of the British India capital from Calcutta to Delhi brought a wave of govt officials and their families to the newly designated capital. Recognising the growing need for quality education within this expanding community, Raisina Bengali School was established on Jan 2, 1925. Originally envisioned as a middle school, it began with just 57 students and one teacher in a temporary space at the Willington Hospital, now known as Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital. As a govt-aided institution, the school was founded with a simple yet profound vision: to provide a centre of learning for the growing Bengali population in Delhi. In its early days, Raisina Bengali School was more than just an educational institution. The school’s establishment coincided with the rise of New Delhi, built upon the remains of a quiet, abandoned village called Raisina. This transformation, from rural quietude to bustling capital, mirrored the school’s own growth—a symbol of cultural endurance in a rapidly changing world. It also emerged as a symbol of heritage, linking the rich traditions of Bengal, some 1,500km away, with the modern aspirations of a diverse city. This year, the school will celebrate its 100th year with a series of events and competitions. At present, 1,100 students study in the school, which has another branch in CR Park with 1,200 students. “I was associated with this school since 1996,” said Chandrima Basak, the principal. “In the early years, the school primarily catered to the children of govt officials. However, over the past 15 years, there was a noticeable shift in the socioeconomic background of the students. Today, most of our students are children of craftsmen and goldsmiths, primarily from Regarpura in Karol Bagh.” She said that “the admission criteria have remained unchanged. We are the only school in Delhi where it is mandatory for at least one parent to be Bengali, and all students must study Bengali up to Class VIII. For those who wish to continue, Bengali remains a subject choice till Class XII.” Though the years have soft-

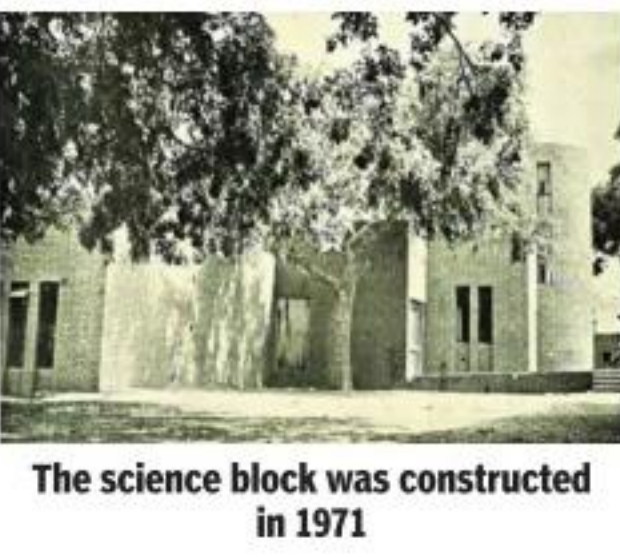
LEGACY CONTINUES



Raisina school now



Science exhibition at the school in 1957



The science block was constructed in 1971

tened its shine, the school’s rich historical legacy remains as lively as ever as it looks ahead to its 100th anniversary celebrations. “Our alumni from across the world will join us for the celebration event, which will span three days,” said Chitra Maji, the school’s secretary-manager. “The event will feature cultural programmes, exhibitions, stalls and a variety of competitions, including painting, music and storytelling. We are prepared for the festivities and have held several interschool competitions, including a football tournament, which saw participation from many schools.” As the years unfolded, Raisina Bengali School grew in both stature and influence. Each phase of the school’s journey brought new challenges, but also new achievements. The outstanding achievements of its alumni span bureaucracy, diplomacy, banking, corporate leadership, and more. “This school holds a special place in my heart, not only because I studied here, but because my father, uncles, and brothers also walked these corridors,” shared Sushanta Basu, a 1971 alumnus. “I hoped the legacy of this institution would continue, as the school once produced exceptional results, though over the years, these have declined. One major reason for this shift is the growing preference for

private schools. We had an unforgettable experience here, and I sincerely hope that current students also cherish their time in this school. I fondly remember the science block, where we spent so many hours. It would be wonderful to see that recreated for future generations.” Basu went on to serve as an additional director of health services in Municipal Corporation of Delhi, retiring in 2015. Notable alumni include Deepak Chatterjee, former Indian ambassador to Belgium, Ardhendu Sen, former chief secretary of West Bengal, Bijoy Chatterjee, former secretary to the Government of India, and renowned parasitologist Alok Bhattacharya. Other distinguished graduates include Pratip Chaudhuri, former chairman of the State Bank of India, the late Abani Roy, former Member of Parliament, and Utpal Banerjee, a professor at the University of California’s Department of Molecular, Cell and Developmental Biology, who was nominated for the Nobel Prize in Physics and has a lab named in his honour at St Stephen’s College. The school has also produced many exceptional athletes, including footballers Anadi Barua and Arup Nandi, as well as athletes like Sumit Mukherjee, Soibol Roy, Arun Barua, Amitabha Roy, and table tennis player Prasun Chaudhury. They have excelled in sports at various levels. The alumni of Raisina Bengali School have made remarkable contributions across various fields, leaving a lasting impact both nationally and internationally.

DJB plans sewage system audit with IIT Delhi or DTU

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New Delhi: Delhi Jal Board is planning to involve a technical institute such as IIT Delhi or Delhi Technical University (DTU) to get a detailed audit done of the functioning of all its sewage treatment plants. The institute will also study DJB’s 10,000km sewerage underground lines, which are old and prone to damage. “We are planning to bring in a technical institute such as IIT Delhi or DTU to get the study done of the functioning of DJB’s STPs and the network. Discussions are on, and soon we will finalise the agreements and start the study,” a senior DJB official said. DJB was established under the Delhi Water Board Act, 1998, to discharge the functions of water supply, se-

wage, sewage disposal and drainage within the National Capital Territory of Delhi. However, there are pipelines in the network which predate independence. This aging network is the reason for increasing complaints of sewer overflow, drains getting choked, breakage and leakage of sewer into drinking water. In addition to this is the growing population of the city, which is putting a burden on the sewerage system. Often, DJB is pulled up by courts and the environmental watchdog, Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC). In Nov, according to the report by DPCC for Oct, 19 of the 37 sewage treatment plants in the city have not met standards. The report, dated Nov 5, said that DJB’s STPs were not adhering to norms, mostly concerning faecal coliform, which

NEED FOR CHECK

Sewage Treatment Infrastructure in Delhi

37 STPs (Sewage Treatment Plants)

10,703 km Length of sewage network lines

Estimated sewage generation: **792 MGD**

Installed treatment capacity of 37 operational STPs
712 MGD

Actual sewage treated
610 MGD

Gap in treatment capacity
102 MGD

REASONS BEHIND STUDY

- Many STPs fail to meet treatment standards
- Rising complaints of sewer overflows, blockages, and breakages

is the presence of raw sewage and excreta in the water. Many STPs also failed to meet the cut for biochemical oxygen demand and total suspended solids.

“While the third-party audit of our treatment standards is done by DPCC and largely the norms are being followed, we are still planning to carry out this study to get a broader understanding of the issues that might create a problem in the future, and we need to take steps now,” DJB said. In March 2023, then water minister Atishi held a special assembly session to address the issues of pending complaints related to water shortage, leaks and sewage. On March 9, a resolution was presented in the assembly regarding the growing problems of sewage and water, and former chief secretary Naresh Kumar was instructed to resolve the complaints. Later, a team of 11 senior IAS officers was formed to resolve complaints on the ground.

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AAP, BJP spar over ‘wall’ in Satpula Park

New Delhi: AAP functionary Saurabh Bharadwaj on Tuesday alleged that the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) built a two-foot-wide wall in the middle of Satpula Park in South Delhi’s Chirag Dilli area. Bharadwaj stated that the Greater Kailash Samajik Ramila Committee organised a grand Ramila in the park every year, which was no longer possible because of the wall. “This Ramila features a magnificent 140-foot stage and is known as the largest and grandest in South Delhi and the surrounding areas. DDA, under BJP-led govt, constructed a two-foot-wide wall in the middle of Satpula Park to prevent the Ramila from being organised in the coming years,” Bharadwaj alleged. AAP and BJP also sparred over organising Chhath celebrations in the same park earlier in Nov. While no immediate response was available from DDA, BJP spokesperson Praveen Shankar Kapoor criticised Bharadwaj for allegedly making statements to incite communal tension. “Saurabh Bharadwaj has a habit of raising issues that may disturb religious harmony. When AAP’s attempts to gain favour with the Hindu community through their registration camps failed, its leaders began picking issues to provoke religious discord,” Kapoor said. TNN

DUTA urges CM for funds amid financial crisis in govt colleges

New Delhi: Delhi University Teachers’ Association (DUTA) has written a letter to chief minister Atishi demanding urgent financial support for the 12 Delhi govt-funded colleges facing a severe crisis. The teachers’ body has called for immediate release of Rs 285 crore to cover the pending salaries and other dues for the staff. This amount includes Rs 100 crore from the fourth-quarter budget passed by AAP govt, along with an additional Rs 185 crore to bridge the deficit accumulated due to cuts in funding. “It was observed that, in regular audits, no financial irregularities were reported,” the letter states. The letter highlights the alarming lack of grant-in-aid available to these colleges, “which has left them unable to pay the Dec 2024 salaries.” “While Delhi govt claims that salaries up to Dec were covered by the third-quarter funds, there is a huge shortfall in the overall budget, which has led to non-payment of salaries, arrears, medical bills, and other admissible dues. We demand immediate regularisation of teaching and non-teaching positions in these 12 colleges,” said a DUTA member. TNN

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Lt. Arvind Srivastava

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SHRI P. K. SHUKLA
Director of Edu (UP) & VC, Bundelkhand Univ (1.1.1925 - 22.1.2002) & SMT. SHACHI SHUKLA (29.12.1929 - 21.12.2006)

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PM To Launch Major Infra Plans For City

Events Likely This Week, World Trade Centre & RRTS Included

Dipak.Dash@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Ahead of announcement of Delhi assembly poll date, PM Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate and lay foundation stone for a number of infrastructure projects for the national capital this week. These include inauguration of the World Trade Centre at Nauroji Nagar, handing over of govt flats at Sarojini Nagar, opening of a 13-km section of the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) connecting New Ashok Nagar in Delhi to Sahibabad in Ghaziabad, and laying of foundation of the Rithala-Kundli metro line.

TOI has learnt that the programmes are scheduled for Jan 3 (Friday) and Jan 5 (Sunday). The Election Commission is likely to announce the poll date early next week.

Eight events, including a public meeting, would be held on Friday. "We are expecting some major announcements to boost the city's infrastructure, particularly in the road and transport sector, and major social welfare schemes," a source said. The poor upkeep of roads in the capital has been a major issue that BJP is using to target the AAP govt.

Sources said on Friday, around one-fourth of the 1,700 flats that have been completed at the redeveloped Sarojini Nagar govt housing complex are likely to be allotted to central govt employees. In the

case of the World Trade Centre, which is a flagship commercial project of the central govt, all commercial spaces have been sold or leased out.

Officials said the PM is likely to inaugurate the Ashok Nagar-Sahibabad stretch of the RRTS corridor on Sunday. This will establish fast-rail connectivity between Meerut and the national capital, bringing down travel time to nearly an hour. Though the inauguration of this section was slated for last Sunday, it

PM is scheduled to lay the foundation stone for the metro line between Rithala and Kundli. The Union Cabinet okayed it on Dec 6

was postponed due to the seven-day national mourning announced following the death of former PM Manmohan Singh on Dec 26.

Similarly, PM Modi is scheduled to lay the foundation stone for the new metro line between Rithala and Kundli. The Union Cabinet, on Dec 6, had approved the 26.5-km corridor of Delhi Metro's phase-IV project, which will improve connectivity between the national capital and neighbouring Haryana. The Rs 6,230-crore corridor is scheduled to be completed in four years.

Doon e-way: No early date for Delhi stretch

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The first leg of the Delhi-Dehradun Expressway from Akshardham to the Eastern Peripheral Expressway (EPE) intersection will now be inaugurated once the entire corridor is ready for traffic by March, sources said. Earlier there was a plan to inaugurate the first stretch of 32-km, falling in the national capital and parts of Uttar Pradesh, before the Delhi assembly polls.

TOI has learnt that the road transport ministry has informed the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) that the current progress of the entire 210-km ex-

pressway is around 90% and it will be completed by the end of Feb. "The plan is to open the expressway in one go rather than opening different stretches when they get completed. Commuters get full benefit of an expressway when they don't need to take detours or diversions, and the end-to-end travel is seamless," said a source.

Union road transport minister Nitin Gadkari had maintained that once the expressway is finished, the travel time between Delhi and Dehradun will be reduced to 2.5 hours, and the journey from Delhi to Haridwar will be cut from five hours to two hours.

2 weapon suppliers of robbers arrested

New Delhi: Two days after two robbers were shot in the legs following an encounter with police in Punjabi Bagh, authorities arrested their associates who were supplying them with weapons.

The accused were identified as Sumit Chauhan (35), a resident of Burari, and his associate Rahul Kumar (34), a resident of Peeragarhi.

The encounter occurred on Sunday when the robbers, who were stopped by the police, opened fire, hitting the officers' bulletproof vests. In retaliation, the police fired back, injuring Rohit Kapoor and Rinku, who were later taken to a hospital. The two robbers were involved in 80 criminal cases.

During interrogation, the accused, Rohit and Rinku, disclosed that their associates, Rahul and Sumit, procured the weapons used in several armed robberies and other crimes. Based on this information, the two were arrested. A pistol, two live cartridges, and a buttoned knife were recovered from Rahul, while Sumit was found in possession of a pistol and three live cartridges. Police stated that both robbers, Rinku and Rohit, primarily targeted various areas of Delhi, focusing on gold jewellery and cash.

NOTICE



Child Name 'Indrajit' (Self), Gender-male, Weight-41.00 kg., Height - 156 C.M., Age 12 Years (approx), Complex-Fair.

The above mentioned child is now staying at Uttaran Children's Home, MLRC, Adra, Purulia, West Bengal by the order of Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Purulia.

If anybody has any claim or any information about the above mentioned child, they may communicate to the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Purulia within 26th January, 2025 with proper documents.

Otherwise, the child will be declared Legally Free for Adoption.

Contact Details:
Office of the District Magistrate, Purulia
District Child Protection Unit (DCPU)
E-mail: dcps.pr@gmail.com / mlrcadra@rediffmail.com
Contact Number: 03252-224409 / 9002813040

Memo No.: 2300/ICA/PURU Dt. 31.12.2024



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DECKED UP FOR A GOODBYE



HAPPY NEW YEAR: An illuminated Connaught Place waits early in the evening for the merry-makers

Investment scam: Gang with China link busted, 5 arrested

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: A gang, allegedly managed by Chinese scammers and involved in at least 68 cheating cases in India, was busted recently, police said on Tuesday. The gang was duping people into investing large sums of money for high returns.

Five members of this international syndicate were arrested. They included Ravit Kumar (29), Swarnpreet Singh (34), Manpreet Singh (42), Jaspal Singh (24) and Vansh Gupta (23). Except Vansh, who hails from Jammu, all others are residents of Punjab.

The racket was unearthed following a complaint lodged on Oct 18 by a woman from Sadh Nagar in southwest Delhi's Palam Colony. She was duped of Rs 19 lakh after being contacted by a woman on WhatsApp who introduced herself as an assistant and lead analyst. The analyst tricked her into paying the amount by assuring her significant returns.

DCP (South West) Surendra Choudhary said the defrauded amount was transferred from her bank account to one in Ludhiana, Punjab, which was under the name of a firm owned by Ravit Kumar. Further investigation revealed that nearly Rs 2.6 crore was siphoned off through this account to various other accounts.

Subsequently, a team, led by inspector Vikas Kumar Buldak, raided several locations and arrested Ravit. Ravit provided information that later led to the arrest of two more suspects, Manpreet and Swarnpreet, who were detained in Patiala. Jaspal and Vansh were apprehended at a hotel in Paharganj, Delhi.

The Dubai-based members of this gang exploited unemployed youths from India by promising them jobs with a Chinese firm in Dubai

Jaspal told police that he obtained Ravit's bank account details from his associate, Maninder Singh. He also claimed that the funds were being transferred to the Chinese nationals involved in the online scam.

Police sources said that the criminal network operated from Dubai, where the accused were working in tandem with Chinese nationals. The arrested individuals were responsible for setting up fake bank accounts and routing the ill-gotten money to international accounts.

The Dubai-based members of this gang exploited unemployed youths from India by promising them jobs with a Chinese firm in Dubai, only to involve them in the fraudulent activities of the syndicate.

"Further investigation is underway. Raids are still being conducted in Jammu, Kashmir and Patiala to nab the syndicate's remaining members," an officer said.

Ravit told the cops that he initially worked as a data operator in a private firm, where he met Manpreet, who later introduced him to Swarnpreet. Together, they created fake firms and opened multiple bank accounts using false identities.

Vansh, a BCom graduate and unemployed, said that he was introduced to the fraudulent operations by Amandeep and Prabsimran in Dubai. The duo told him about a job opportunity at a Chinese firm in Dubai. Vansh went there and started working for the gang. He was paid Rs 1.5 lakh per month for his role in the operation. Jaspal also went to Dubai and began working there for the gang.

Amandeep and Prabsimran are believed to be hiding in Dubai and police may issue a lookout circular against the duo soon.

Road tunnel: DPCC submits public inputs to green min

Priyangi.Agarwal@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) has prepared a report based on the feedback it has received during two public hearings in Sept regarding the proposed construction of an underground road tunnel from Shiv Murti Interchange to Nelson Mandela Marg.

The report has been submitted to the ministry of environment, forest and climate change (MoEF&CC), which will make the decision on granting environmental clearance to the project.

DPCC, in its report, said that the participants at the hearing were told by the project proponent that the environmental management plan will be implemented during construction. A local resident, Nishkarsh from Mahipalpur, asked during the public hearing if he would face any problems as the proposed tunnel would come up above his house. The project proponent in its written reply has stated that the tunnel will be constructed using a tunnel boring machine below the surface, and hence no damage is anticipated.

"Proper monitoring and safety design checks shall be done to avoid any damage to existing structures," the project proponent has said, according to DPCC's report.

Another participant, Jitendra Yadav also from Mahipalpur, asked officials when the tunnel work would start and what arrangements would be made to keep the environment safe. He was told that the tentative date for the start was July 2025, subject to clearances. All precautions and other measures would be taken as per the Central Pollution Control Board guidelines, monitored by NHAI and its agencies, the project proponent assured Yadav.

Anupam Avasthi, another participant, told the officials that his sector, D-6 Santushi Apartment, will be the most affected during the implementation of the project. He said they were already suffering because the society was closed on one side due to metro construction work. He was assured that there would be minimum inconvenience to the residents.

A DPCC official said, "The comments received during the public hearings have been compiled and sent to the MoEF&CC for further action in the matter."

The total length of the tunnel is 4.9km, and it is proposed to pass through New Delhi and South Delhi districts, including the southern ridge. A total of 417 trees are proposed to be cut. The project aims to ease traffic.

According to the draft environmental impact assessment report, forest land involving 5,825.7 hectares falling under Southern Ridge and is a deemed forest will be diverted.

The ridge management board gave approval to the project in Nov 2022, followed by the Central Empowered Committee in June 2023 and the Supreme Court in Oct last year.

Of the total 4.983km, the tunnel length would be around 4.3km. The total capital cost, including civil, utility shifting, and forest and environment, is proposed to be Rs 4089 crore.

Cop run over in Nangloi in Sept: Chargesheet filed

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Months after a policeman's fatal encounter with a car in west Delhi's Nangloi, Delhi Police have filed a chargesheet in the case.

The incident occurred when the policeman, on bike patrol, got into an argument with the car driver, who then chased, hit, and dragged him over 30 feet before crushing him against a stationary vehicle on Sept 29.

The chargesheet names Dharmender and Rajnish as the main accused, while two others have been accused of harbouring Dharmender.


According to the 400-page chargesheet filed by Delhi Police in court, the incident began when constable Sandeep Malik spotted Dharmender and Rajnish drinking in a car while on night duty. They became enraged after Sandeep objected to their drinking. The constable instructed the duo to leave immediately for their residence. However, Dharmender and Rajnish refused.

Constable Sandeep admonished them and threatened to initiate legal action at their residence, forcing them to vacate the premises. This enraged Dharmender further. As the constable pursued them on his motorcycle, the accused stopped outside Veena Enclave, some distance from their residence, and awaited his arrival.

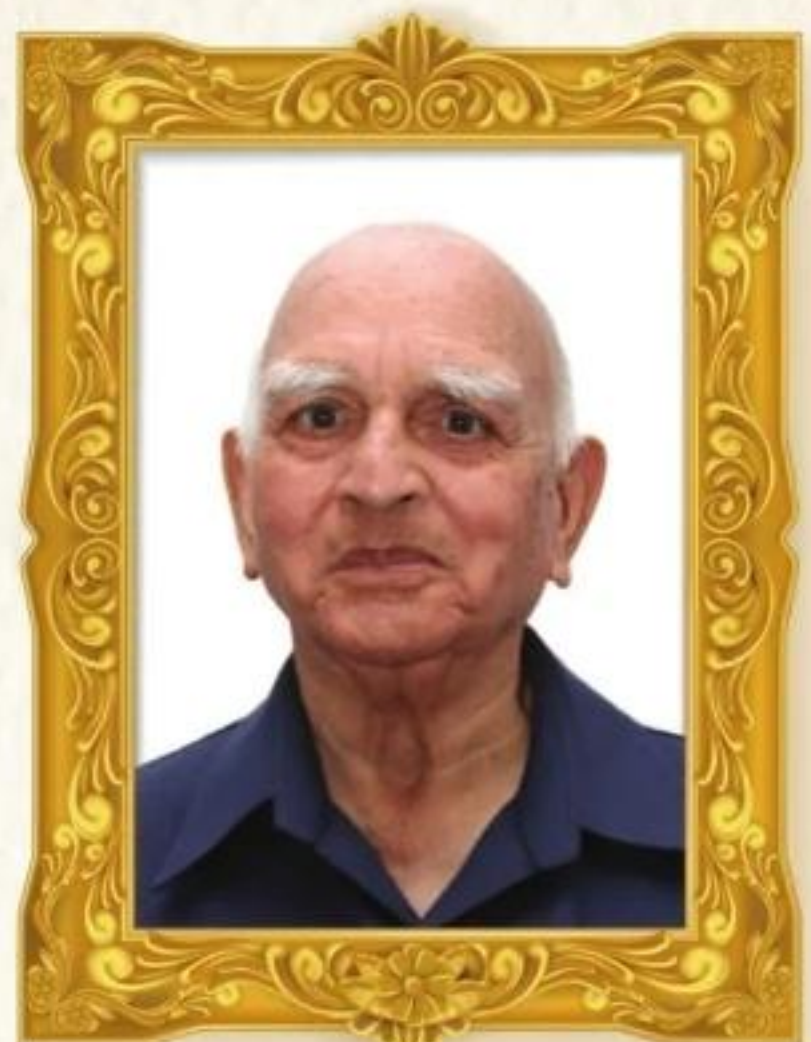
The murder, captured on CCTV footage, confirmed that the cop was mowed down without any provocation.

At 2.15 am, the car reached the street, reversed slightly, and stopped on the side. At 2.16 am, as constable Sandeep approached on his motorcycle and headed towards the accused's house, the accused tailed him and ran him over. The footage shows that upon impact, Sandeep lost control of the motorcycle, his legs were thrust into the air, and he collapsed onto the bike. The Wagon R then collided with another vehicle, sandwiching the cop between the car and a stationary vehicle. Despite being rushed to hospital, he succumbed to his injuries. His body was handed over to his family after an autopsy.

They were booked under BNS sections 221 (obstructing public servant in discharge of public functions), 132 (assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty), 103 (murder), 249 (harbouring offender) and 3(5) (common intention).



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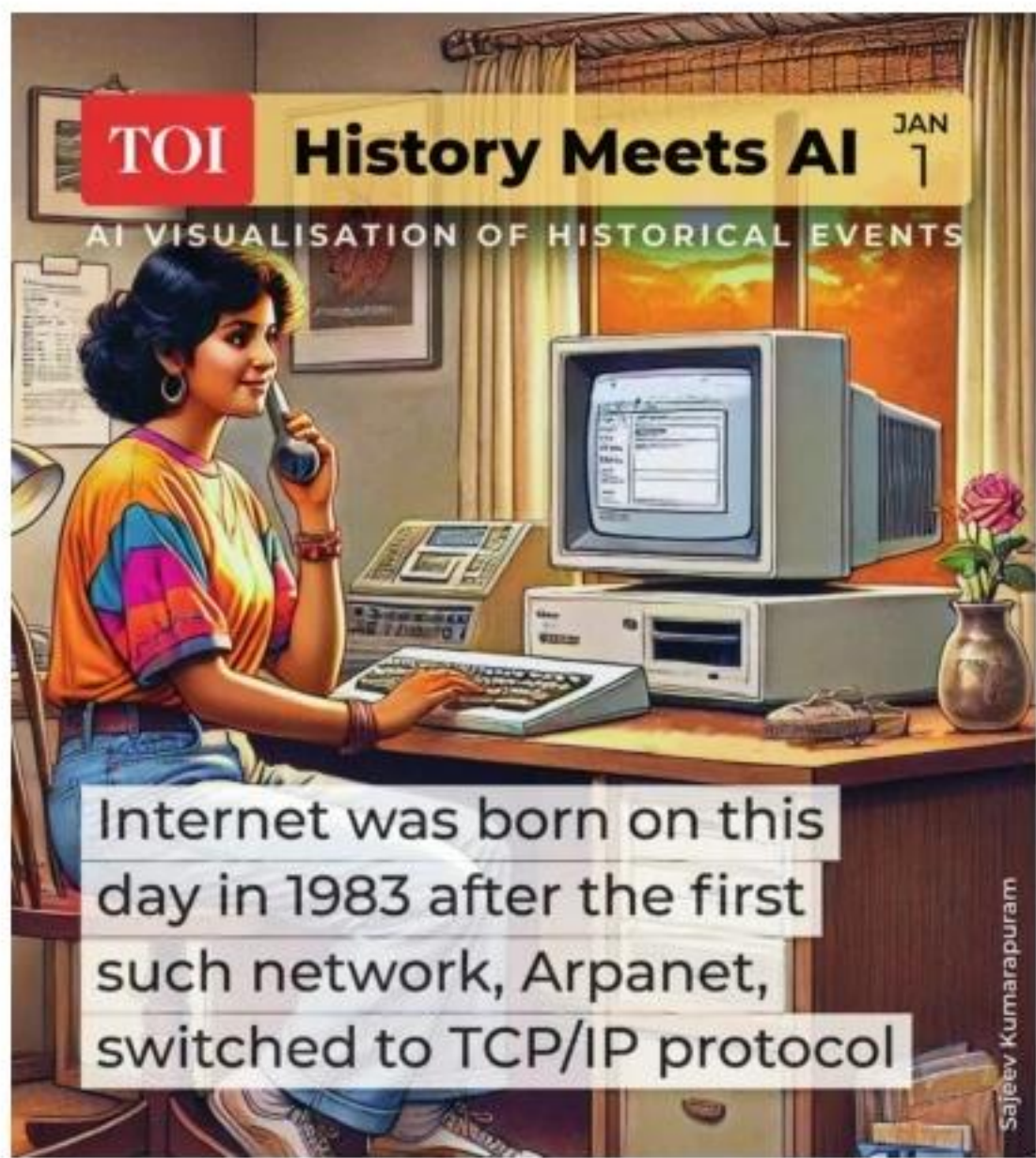
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IN RELIEF FOR EX-CRICKETER, HC STAYS PF ARREARS CASE AGAINST ROBIN UTHAPPA

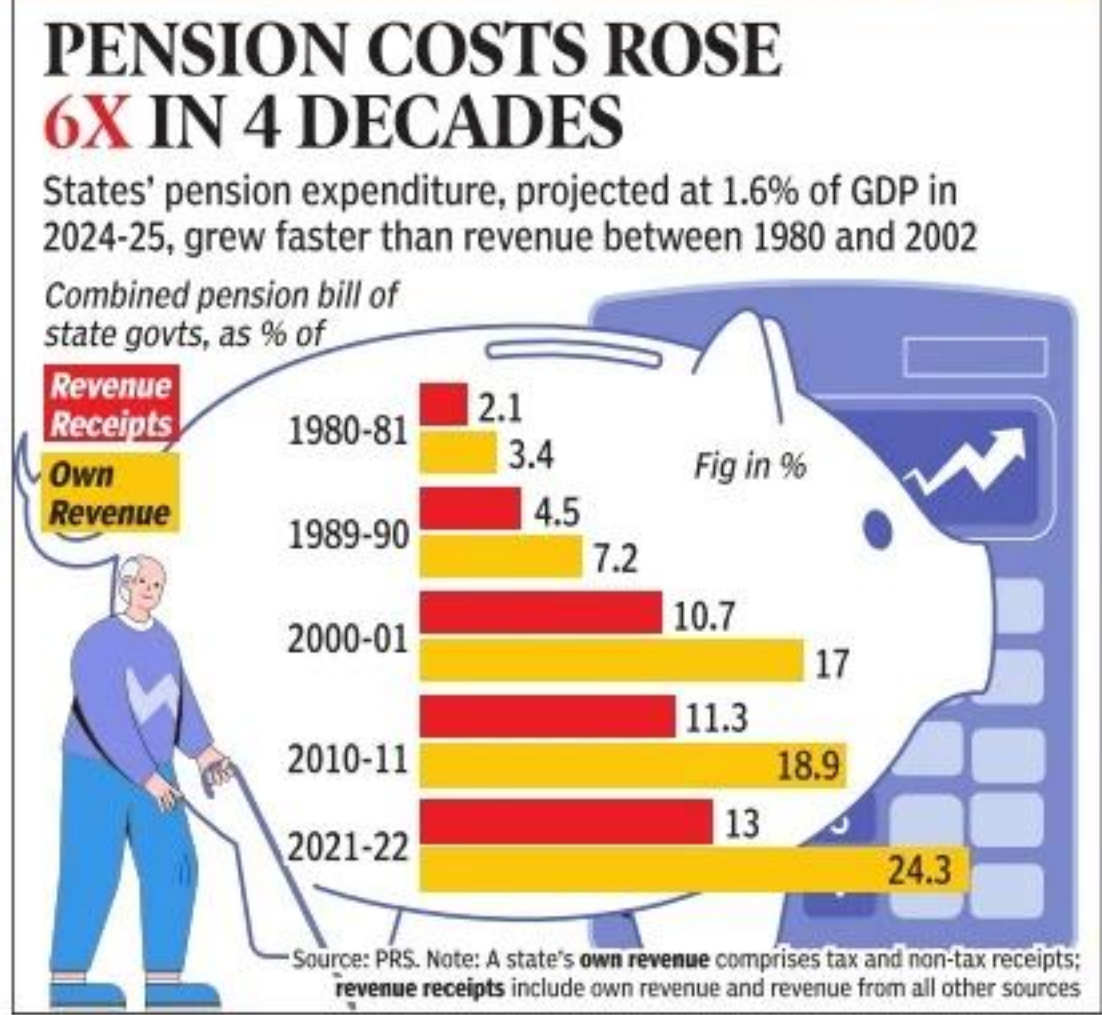
BIHAR CM NITISH MAKES ASSETS PUBLIC, HAS ₹21,000 IN CASH, ₹1.5CR FLAT IN DELHI



₹1L payout for bug bite on bus

Dakshina Kannada District Consumer Commission in Karnataka has ordered a private bus operator and a booking agent to pay over Rs 1 lakh to a passenger for mental agony, hardship and financial loss suffered due to bug bites during a 2022 journey between Mangaluru and Bengaluru. The commission ruled that there had been a deficiency in service. The swelling and other bodily injuries caused by the bites forced passenger Deepika Suvarna into a 15-day rest for the allergy to subside, leading to her elimination from a TV reality show and consequent loss of earnings. Deepika had booked an online ticket to Bengaluru on Aug 16, 2022, to take part in the reality show on a Kannada TV channel but suffered a sleepless night in the bus, rashes and other reactions on her body when she got off the next morning. Deepika was a participant in the show along with husband Shobharaj Pavoor. The 15-day rest advised by the doctor to overcome the bug allergy resulted in the elimination of both from the show. TNN

STATISTICS A slice of life in numbers By Mudita Giotra



PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF ACCUSED PERSON

See Section 82 Cr.P.C.

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person(s) **Sajid, S/o: Nasru, R/o: VPO-Basat MEV Mewat, Haryana**, has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence in **CC No. 5895/2019, U/s. 138 NI Act, P.S.: KNK Marg, Delhi** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said accused person(s) **Sajid**, cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused person(s) **Sajid**, has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused person **Sajid CC No. 5895/2019, U/s. 138 NI Act, P.S.: KNK Marg, Delhi** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on or before **17.02.2025**.

By Order
Rohit Kumar
Judicial Magistrate First Class-04
Court No. 110 Rohini Court, New Delhi

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a male namely **Aman Kumar, S/o: Shobha Devi, R/o: H.No. 24 Tanchua Mohalla, Chilla Village, Delhi** has been missing/Kidnapped since **14.10.2024** at about **01:00 PM** from his Home. In this regard **FIR No. 418/2024, U/s: 137(2) BNS, Dated 19.11.2024** has been registered at **P.S. Mayur Vihar, Delhi**. The description of missing/Kidnapped male is as under:
Name: Aman Kumar, Age: 16 Years, Height: 5'7", Complexion: Shallow, Built: Medium, Wearing: Black Colour T-Shirt & Lower, Black Colour Slipper in Feet. If anyone have any information about this missing/Kidnapped male please inform **P.S. Mayur Vihar, Delhi**.
Web: <http://cbi.nic.in>, Email: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph.: 011-24368638/24368641, Fax: 011-24368639
SHO
Police Station Mayur Vihar, Delhi
Ph: 011-22710335, 8750870627
DP/17138/ED/2024

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that an unidentified Male namely **Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown** was found **Unconscious Condition on 14.12.2024** from **G-Block Mangolpuri, Delhi**. Was **Admitted on MLC No. 26048/24 Sanjay Gandhi Hospital** where during the treatment doctor declared him dead. In this regard **DD No. 36A, dated 14.12.2024** has been lodged at **Police Station Mangolpuri, Delhi**. Physical Description of unidentified male dead body is as under:
Name: Unknown, Age: About 34 Years, Height: 5'10", Complexion: Shallow, ID Mark: Tattoo on Left Hand, Wearing: Green Colour Hoodie T-Shirt and Pink Colour Pant. If anyone have any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.

SHO
Police Station Mangolpuri, Delhi
Ph.: 011-27922168, 7065036121
DP/16896/OD/2024

Maha mantri's aide surrenders in Beed sarpanch murder case

Political Vendetta Behind False Extortion Complaint, Says Accused

Gitesh.Shelke@timesofindia.com

Pune: The man wanted in connection with the abduction and murder of Massajog village sarpanch Santosh Deshmukh in Maharashtra's Beed district surrendered Tuesday to CID in Pune. Former Parli municipal council chief Valmik Karad, a close associate of minister Dhananjay Munde of NCP (Ajit Pawar), had been on the run since cases were registered earlier in Dec.

"I have done nothing wrong. My name is being dragged into this," Karad said before entering the CID office. He was questioned for two hours before being arrested in. CID is investigating three interconnected cases: Deshmukh's abduction and murder, a Rs 2 crore extortion bid involving a windmill company in which the sarpanch tried to intervene, and an assault on the firm's security guard.

Although Karad is not named in the murder, his alleged role in the extortion plot has created political ripples, with opposition and Mahayuti coalition politicians



Although Karad is not named in the murder, opposition and Mahayuti netas have demanding his arrest and minister Munde's resignation

from Beed district demanding his arrest and minister Munde's resignation, alleging political shielding.

CID DIG Sarang Awad said Karad "will be taken to Kajif for custodial remand proceedings and further investigation". Two others named in the extortion case have already been arrested. In a video message released before his surrender, Karad claimed innocence, alleging political vendetta. "A false extortion complaint has

'Will cancel unnecessary Beed arms licences': Police are scrutinising all weapon licences issued in Beed district of Maharashtra and verifying in every case if the person has a legitimate need for a firearm, a senior police official has said.

FRs would be registered against persons whose photographs or videos while flaunting a gun are circulating on social media, Beed Superintendent.

FULL COVERAGE: P 18

ent of Police Navneet Kanwat said told PTL. The worsening law and order situation in this central Maharashtra district came to the fore after the brutal murder of Santosh Deshmukh, sarpanch of Massajog village, on December 9, and a related case of extortion.

"We are verifying the need for weapon licence in all cases. Wherever there is no need, we will recommend that the licence be cancelled," said Kanwat who took charge in Beed recently after the previous SP was transferred amid the political row. PTI

Leopard seen on Infy Mysuru campus, staff to work from home

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mysuru: A leopard was sighted at the Infosys campus in Mysuru early Tuesday, sending foresters and police on a hunt to trap the big cat.

CCTV footage confirmed the leopard's presence some 100 metres from the hostel at the high-security campus located in the Hebbal industrial area on the outskirts of the city. However, personnel from the forest department, cops and the IT company staff did not spot it during the day.

Combing operations will continue on Wednesday as well, forest authorities said.

As soon as the big cat's presence on the campus was confirmed, it was closed for the day. Except for a handful of staff members, only foresters and police were allowed inside, and all the gates were closed. More than 10,000 people work on the campus that is spread over 300 acres.

A software engineer said he received a message around 6 am about the presence of the leopard and was advised to work from home for the day.

Speaking to reporters in Bidar, forest minister Eshwar B Khandre said: "Drones



Karnataka foresters and cops are on a hunt to trap the big cat

fitted with thermal cameras are being used to trace the leopard. All measures have been taken to ensure the animal doesn't enter the nearby human habitat."

Although the boundary wall, equipped with electric fencing, stands 12-13 feet high, the trees planted along the outer wall provided an easy entry point for the big cat. Foresters said the leopard climbed on a tree to gain entry into the campus.

Speaking to TOI, Prabhu Gowda, deputy conservator of forests (wildlife), said: "CCTV footage confirmed the entry of the leopard, though we have not been able to locate it."

SGPC reverses Badal shooter ex-communication decision

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Amritsar: Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee's executive committee reversed Tuesday its decision to excommunicate Narain Singh Chaura, who attempted to assassinate Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) functionary Sukhbir Singh Badal outside Amritsar's Golden Temple on Dec 4.

The Dec 9 resolution urging the Akal Takht jathedar to excommunicate Chaura from the Panth was annulled without citing any reason for doing so. The executive committee

also discussed the killing of three suspected pro-Khalistan operatives from Punjab in a shootout with police in UP and demanded a judicial inquiry into the deaths.

The meeting, chaired by SGPC chief Harjinder Singh Dhumi, passed a resolution that questions if the encounter was a deliberate attempt to target youths from Punjab. Another decision was to extend by a month the term of the panel tasked with probing allegations levelled by a person against Takht Damdama Sahib jathedar Giani Harpreet Singh.

PREPARING FOR MAHAKUMBH



A sadhu at the Dashashwamedh Ghat ahead of the Mahakumbh in Prayagraj on Tuesday. UP CM Yogi Adityanath said that no protocol will be applicable during the main bathing festival in the mela

Tax fears stop WB pet owners from opening up during livestock census

Sarthak Ganguly & Suman Chakraborti | TNN

Kolkata: The state animal resources development department is conducting a survey on domesticated animals in Bengal for the Centre's 21st livestock census across the country.

Several pet owners in Kolkata and suburbs are reportedly hiding their furry babies from the prying eyes of the census, according to officials who are facing challenges in conducting the survey. They are seeking help from civic and urban municipal bodies to pre-empt resistance or reluctance by pet owners. The officials lamented that several people



The officials lamented that several people are reluctant to reveal their ownership of pets, mostly pedigree dogs, for fear of any additional tax burden

are reluctant to reveal their ownership of pets, mostly pedigree dogs, for fear of any additional tax burden being imposed on them. The survey began on

Sept 1 and is conducted by the Centre in all states at an interval of every five years. It also includes pet dogs and cats along with other domesticated animals.

Although the survey was supposed to be concluded in Bengal on Dec 31, the deadline has been extended until Feb, Utpal Kumar Kar-makar, MD of West Bengal Livestock Development Corporation, said.

"We have already started corresponding with local municipal bodies, including Kolkata Municipal Corporation and Bidhannagar Municipal Corporation, about the census," an official of the state animal resources development department said.

Subsequently, Rs 10,000 cash and some stolen valuables were recovered. The other burglar is still at large, police said.

2 drunk burglars break into home, 1 flees with loot, other passes out

Tapan Susheel | TNN

Roorkee: Two drunk men, in a bid to make a fast buck, broke into a house at a posh colony in Roorkee in Uttarakhand on Monday night and started ransacking the house. As the night was cold, they decided to take a few gulps more at the house from a bottle which they carried. However, as luck would have it, one of the thieves got completely sozzled and passed out in one of the bedrooms of the house.

His accomplice was tipsy and tried to wake his partner but failed and abandoned him before fleeing with Rs 2 lakh cash and gold jewellery worth Rs 3 lakh.

The house owner, Mayank Goel, 35, who used to work for a finance company, said on Tuesday: "I went to UP with my wife and child to meet a relative on Saturday. We returned home around 11pm on Monday, and to our shock found the lock of the front door broken and the rooms ransacked. As we entered cautiously, we saw a man sleeping in one of the bedrooms. We called the police and found that he was drunk, and his name was Wasim Khaleel."

Police have sent Khaleel (40), from Roorkee, for medical tests and he was remanded in judicial custody. An FIR under BNS sections 305 (theft in a house), 331-4 (housebreaking by night for theft) and 317-2 (possession of stolen property) was registered.

Subsequently, Rs 10,000 cash and some stolen valuables were recovered. The other burglar is still at large, police said.

Mumbai fog spreads to sea, pushes fish to warmer waters 200km away

Chittaranjan.Tembhekar @timesofindia.com

Mumbai: Kashinath Bhoir has not returned to the Versova Jetty for a week: he and numerous other fishermen have ventured almost 100 nautical miles (around 185km) into the sea to secure their catch. Dnyanesh, his brother, says the fog that blanketed a vast expanse of Arabian sea off Mumbai's coast last week has made the fish move out of its usual 15-20 nautical mile range near the coast towards warmer waters.

A Met official said easterly winds have propelled the haze from Mumbai towards the sea. It currently extends 40-50 nautical miles offshore, diminishing visibility to 2 km for fishing vessels, reports.

According to fishermen association head Devendra Tandell and Rajhans Tapke, fishing boats and trawlers are now compelled to use up substantial stocks of fuel to ven-

CATCH DWINDLES
➤ Easterly wind carrying dust, pollutants from various parts of state, pushing smog over Mumbai region further into sea
➤ Haze causes sea surface water temp to drop, reduces sunlight reaching fish, forcing them to go to warmer waters
➤ While fish catch reduces, visibility also reduces for fishing boats in areas near city

ture up to 100 nautical miles (India's territorial waters extend up to 200 nautical miles). As fish migrate towards warmer waters, the catch is dwindling and prices escalating in the city's markets.

Fluctuating weather patterns have altered fish migration routes, with Bombay duck, typically caught near Versova, now found beyond Palghar towards Gujarat. Similarly, sardines have shifted northward from the Konkan towards south of Mumbai, they said, highlighting that

these alterations in patterns are directly related to weather conditions. According to Tandell, pomfrets have travelled far beyond Mumbai waters.

Tapke observed that the recent collision between a fishing vessel and a cargo ship occurred due to poor visibility caused by the dense smog near the coast. Explaining the weather phenomenon, Kamble said the easterly wind travelling towards the western coast is carrying dust and pollutants from various parts of the state, pushing the smog over the Mumbai region further into the sea. "This time it is not Mumbai's pollution alone, but from other surrounding urban setups as the wind is blowing from the countryside towards the coast," he said. It may be noted that the extended smog over Mumbai is primarily due to the substantial moisture that flowed in with the interaction of easterly, northerly and westerly winds over Maharashtra lead-

ing to condensation. The initial foggy condition which was due to a drop in temperature thus transformed into widespread smog over the past few days as the heavy moisture and insufficient wind speed forced the dust and smoke from vehicles, garbage and construction sites to remain suspended in air. Since Monday, however, the smog has been rapidly dissipating.

Tandell, who is chief of All Maharashtra Fishermen's Action Committee, said the cost of fuel and ice for cold storage, rationing and maintenance of a vessel has increased substantially over the last week, leading to rise in prices of fish. He said since the boats were arriving late, it has also resulted in shortage. "The cost of Bombay duck has increased more than double while pomfrets and surmai are 30-35% more expensive. If the same weather continues, the rise could be more," Tapke added.

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Centre extending all help to Kerala nurse awarded death sentence in Yemen: MEA

TNN & AGENCIES

New Delhi: With Yemen having upheld the death sentence awarded earlier to a Kerala nurse, Indian govt said it's extending all possible help to the woman identified as Nimisha Priya. "We are aware of the sentencing of Nimisha Priya in Yemen. We understand that the family of Priya is exploring relevant options. Govt is extending all possible help in the matter," said MEA.

Priya's death sentence was recently approved by Yemen President Rashad al-Ali-

We understand that the family of Priya is exploring relevant options, MEA said. Reports indicate the execution could take place in a month, leaving the family in shock and racing against time to save her

mi. Reports indicate that the execution could take place within a month, leaving the family in shock and racing against time to save her.

Priya, hailing from Kollengode in Kerala's Palakkad district, was handed capital punishment for allegedly murdering a Yemeni citizen.

She had moved to Yemen in 2008 to support her daily-

work labourer parents. She worked in several hospitals and eventually decided to open her own clinic. In 2017, a dispute arose between her and her Yemeni business partner, Talal Abdo Mahdi, after she reportedly opposed his alleged attempts to misappropriate funds. According to her family, Priya allegedly injected Mahdi with se-

datives to retrieve her confiscated passport. Tragically, an overdose led to his death.

She was arrested while attempting to flee the country and was convicted of murder in 2018. In 2020, a trial court in Sanaa sentenced her to death, and Yemen's Supreme Judicial Council upheld the verdict in Nov 2023, though it left open the option of blood money. The case has drawn widespread attention and raised concerns over the fate of Indian nationals abroad as the family and supporters continue their efforts to save Priya from the death penalty.

CDSCO seizes large quantities of drugs without proper papers from Kol-based co

DurgeshNandan.Jha
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) and Drugs Control Directorate of West Bengal recently seized large quantities of anti-cancer, anti-diabetic, and other drugs from a Kolkata-based company.

The seized drugs, labelled as being manufactured in various countries including Ireland, Turkey, the USA, and Bangladesh, were found without any supporting documents to prove their legitimate import into India.

The investigating team also discovered several empty packing materials, further raising concerns over authenticity of the seized products.

According to health ministry, a woman identified as proprietor of the wholesale

FIRM OWNER HELD

firm has been arrested, and to ensure proper investigation, samples of the drugs have been sent for quality testing. "The remaining seized quantity is being kept in safe custody by CDSCO," the health ministry said.

A court granted judicial custody of the arrested proprietor for 14 days and permitted further interrogation. Further investigation into the matter is ongoing, the ministry said.

The statement added that CDSCO and state authorities will continue to work in close coordination to combat the threat posed by spurious drugs and to safeguard the interests of consumers.

Recently, CDSCO introduced new guidelines for inspections. It stated that all drug inspectors in the country should collect at least 10

samples in a month; nine samples of drugs and one sample of cosmetics/medical device. It also said the drug inspectors must plan the sampling in such a way that samples are forwarded to the laboratory on the same day of sampling. In case of rural location or distant location to office, sample shall be forwarded to laboratory by next day and not later than that.

The new guidelines also provide for centralised information on sale outlets where sub-standard or spurious products are reported to keep them under regular vigilance.

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A Govt-Aided Christian Minority Educational Institution over 100 years old, managed by the Diocese of Delhi - CNI and affiliated to the CBSE

Invites applications for the post of Principal from eligible Christian women candidates who are preferably communicant members of the Church of North India (CNI)

Essential qualifications:-

- Postgraduate Degree with at least a Second Division from a recognized University or its equivalent. Candidates with a regular degree will be preferred
- Degree in teaching/education from recognized university or its equivalent
- Ten years teaching experience as a Vice Principal, PGT in a Higher Secondary, Senior Secondary School or inter college.

Age Limit: Not exceeding 45 years on the closing date of application

Desirable qualifications:-

- Five years administrative experience at High School level in a government-recognized school. Doctorate Degree M. Ed Degree from a recognized university
- Pay Scales as per "7" Pay Commission applicable to Govt. Aided schools under Directorate of Education Govt. of NCT Delhi.

Interested candidates may send in their applications on plain paper +1 passport-sized photograph (accompanied by photocopies of supporting documentation) through Speed-post by 22 January 2025 to The Chairman, QMS Tis Hazari Bishop's Office, 1 Church Lane, New Delhi - 110001

Thereafter no application will be accepted. No application will be received by hand. Candidates who are employed are advised to submit their applications through proper channels. Only shortlisted candidates will be called to the interview. TA / DA will not be paid for purpose of attending the interview. Shortlisted candidates will need to present their original certificates for security at the time of interview. Incomplete applications / invalid documentation will be rejected. The Experience Certificate must mention the designation of the post held, and pay-scale, period and must be counter signed by the Deputy Director of Education/Competent Authority. An Experience Certificate without the counter-signature of an officer of the Department of Education will not be considered, as this is mandated by DoE rules.

MARKETING, ADVERTISING & SALES

MARKETING

We are seeking an experienced and passionate Sales representative to join our team for Marketing Industrial Chemical. The ideal candidate having their own vehicle will be preferred. Please apply to: contact@alad.com

SALES

REQUIRED

Sr. Sales Executives for OEM Sales
 with 4-5 yrs exp. in builder hardware products.
 Mail CV on hinges@jollyengg.com

MEDICAL

REQUIRED

4 - 5 years Exp. For Pathologist, Cardiologist, Andrologist, Eye and Dental Surgeon for Tilak Nagar, West Delhi. 9212355213, Send Cv-ssdmhospital@gmail.com

REQ

Fresher/Trained/Exp. Pharmacist for Utsav Medico at Ramesh Nagar, ND-15, Salary Negotiable. Call 9910464551 timing 10am - 5pm

Mata Chanan Devi Hospital

C-1, Janakpuri, New Delhi - 110058
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REQUIREMENTS

- SR. CONSULTANT
- ANAESTHESIOLOGIST
- OPHTHALMOLOGIST
- CONSULTANT
- INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGIST
- INTERVENTIONAL UROLOGIST
- NEPHROLOGIST
- BARITRIC SURGEON
- RHEUMATOLOGIST
- EMERGENCY MEDICINE
- NEONATOLOGIST & PAEDIATRIC INTENSIVIST
- ATTENDING PHYSICIAN (NON INVASIVE CARDIAC LAB)
- ATTENDING CONSULTANT (OBST & GYNAE)
- INTENSIVIST
- ASSISTANT MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT
- RESIDENT MEDICAL OFFICER (CRITICAL AREAS)
- STAFF NURSES (CRITICAL AREAS & WARDS)

PA to Medical Superintendent
 Ph. No.: 011-45582000
 E-mail: hrcmdh.in, management@mcchd.in

OTHER PROFESSIONALS

FASHION DESIGNERS

REQUIRED Exp Fashion Designer for Indian Ladies suit Boutique @ Main Market, Rajouri Garden, Phone: 9711900334

OTHER VACANCIES

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

AXIS Communications

An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Event Co.

URGENTLY REQUIRED

- 3D & Graphic Designer
- Anamorphic Content Developer
- Video Editor/Visualiser
- HR Manager
- Operation Managers
- Sr. Business Dev. Managers
- Client Servicing
- Data Entry Operator
- Social Media Manager

Experience of Event Industry Preferred
 Send resume to hr.axiscom01@gmail.com
 For more info: www.axisevents.in

SECURITY

URGENT

Requires General Manager- 2 (Exp. 3-4 years), Marketing Manager-4 (Exp. 3-4 years), Operation Manager-3 (Exp. 3-4 yrs) at Dwarika, Delhi. 9350587578, Send resume at: cv@samsecurity.com

TECHNICAL ENGINEERS

LABOUR CONTRACTORS

REQ

contractor to replace one lakh sq. feet flooring, rebuild 10 large toilets & other misc. civil works on labour rate basis in Jaipuria School, 23, Rajpur Road, Civil Lines, Delhi.

NEW YEAR SPECIAL

INDIA'S NO.1 BAND

मास्टर बैन्ड

388, लाजपत राय मार्केट, दिल्ली-6 फोन 011-66316388
 3052/37, हरियाना विह रोड, कोल बाग, नई दिल्ली-6, फोन-011-40191601
 Website: www.masterband.in
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Jamia Hamdard

(Deemed to be University)
 Accredited by NAAC in 'A+' Category
 Hamdard Nagar, New Delhi - 110062

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Sealed items rate Tenders are invited in two bids system (Technical & Financial) from reputed Contractors, worked/working with Govt., Semi Govt or Autonomous Institutions for "Repair and Renovation work of Canteen". Detailed specifications, terms & conditions are given in the tender documents. Interested bidders may obtain the tender documents from the website www.jamiahamdard.edu.
 Last date for submission of tender is 10/01/2025 upto 3.00 p.m.
 Registrar
 Ph. No. 011-26959688 (12 Lines) Extn. 5378, 5379

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

TENDERS

BADMINTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA (BAI)

INVITES BID DOCUMENTS FOR REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR SPONSORSHIPS OF BADMINTON SPORTS

Badminton Association of India invites bid for proposal from reputed Sports Company directly or through its Indian Partner in Form of joint Bid dealing with Badminton equipment, accessories and apparels, who are interested to Sponsor Badminton Sports through Badminton Association of India. For detail information please visit our website: www.badmintonindia.org. Your offer along with the earnest money through DD/BG of Rs.50 Lakhs in favour of Badminton Association of India. Tender Fee of Rs.2000.00 in DD favour of Badminton Association of India and court fee stamp of Rs.8.25 or IPO of Rs 10.00 alongwith the Bid documents in a single sealed cover to reach: Badminton Association of India, D-6/10, Ground Floor Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110057 (INDIA). Important Dates are:

1. Issuance of Bid document 01/01/2025
2. Date of Pre-bid meeting 07/01/2025 03:00 PM
3. Last date & time for Submission of Bid documents is 13/01/2025 02:00 PM
4. Date and Time for Opening of Bids 13/01/2025 03:00 PM

HON'Y. GENERAL SECRETARY
 BADMINTON ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

I Md. Maroof Ansari, S/o - Mohammad Ekram, R/o - N-106, Jamia Nagar, Batla House, New Delhi has changed my name from Mohammad Maroof Ansari to Md. Maroof Ansari for all future purposes

TIMES interact SPECIAL

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The Fitness Cycle

Delhi / NCR
 146, New Manglapuri (Opp metro pillar 46-47)
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 99990 62766

G-1, Sec 11 (Opp. Honda Showroom)
 Dallupura Road, Noida
 92057 94533

TIMES interact

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6TH JANUARY, 2025

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jobs

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ACADEMIC

GENERAL

SANT SUJAN SINGH JI INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

St. Sec. School, C.B.S.E. Affiliated
 Kushak No. II, Behind Swarop Nagar, G.T. Karnal Road, Delhi-36, Ph. 9999100400

TEACHERS (PGT) (FEMALE)

Computer Science, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Maths walk-in-interview on 07/01/2025

ACCOUNTANT (MALE/FEMALE)

Walk-in-interview on 07/01/2025

COUNCELLOR (FEMALE)

Walk-in-interview on 07/01/2025

TEACHERS (TGT) (FEMALE)

English, Maths, Science, S.St., Computer, Lab Assistant (for Science Lab), Special Educator Walk-in-interview on 08/01/2025

TEACHERS (PRT) (FEMALE)

English, Maths, Science, Hindi, Punjabi, Spanish, Physical Education, Art & Craft, Music (Western & Indian), Mother Teacher walk-in-interview on 09/01/2025

Please share your resume along with your latest passport photo on the below mail: sssjs.school@gmail.com

SANSKAR WORLD SCHOOL

SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL, AFFILIATED TO CBSE
 Opp. ITC Factory, Meerut Road, Ghaziabad

REQUIRE

PRINCIPAL

Teaching experience minimum 15 years & administration experience minimum 5 years.

VICE-PRINCIPAL

Teaching experience minimum 10 years and administration experience minimum 3 years.

ACADEMIC HEAD

TEACHERS OF ALL SUBJECTS

- PGT Post Graduation with B.Ed
- TGT Graduation with B.Ed
- PRT Graduation with B.Ed
- P.PRT Graduation with B.Ed or N.T.T

SPORTS TEACHER

LIBRARIAN

COMPUTER LAB ASSISTANT

SCIENCE LAB ASSISTANT

PSYCHOLOGY TEACHER

SPECIAL EDUCATOR

COMPUTER SCIENCE

SPORTS COACHES

RECEPTIONIST

PHOTOGRAPHER AND VIDEO MAKER

CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR (ITI Holder)

All above vacancy requires min. experience of 07 years
 Apply online with latest resume with in 7 days
 career@sanskarworldschool.org
9582220843
www.sanskarworldschool.org

ADMINISTRATION

IMPORT / EXPORT

REQ.

Export documentation Executive for Export House in Gurgaon. Send Resume to: info@stonecraft.in
 Call +91 9910249334

STENOGRAPHERS & TYPISTS

REQUIRED a Part Time Steno, fluent in English and Shorthand for a Law Firm in West Delhi. Contact: 9810928188

TEACHER

REQD. qual & exp PGT- Biology, Phy, Python, Eco, History, Pol. Sc, Soci, TGT- Eng, Hindi, Sanskrit & IT. Female. Comp Trs. Coordinators, Convent of Gagan Bharti, Mohan Grdn, N.D. whatsapp 7669393535.

ACCOUNTS

ACCOUNTS & FINANCE

CA Co. No. GR Metro Stn. Reg. CA, Semi CA, Articles, Comp. Optr. Knowing Net Surfing, E-Comm. Field/Oft Asst. Driver. apply gvkumarnd@gmail.com

LEGAL

ADVOCATE

REQD. Expd. Advocate with Firm B'ground for a Law Firm in Delhi for IPR litigations/ work. Salary no issue for deserving candidate. Send CV Pic on: advoindial@gmail.com

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TIMES interact

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UP man lynched by vigilantes on suspicion of 'cow slaughter'

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PROVISION OF ELEPHANT INTRUSION DETECTION SYSTEM

Tender Notice No.: N_12_HQ_2024-25. Open E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work:**Tender No.: N_12_HQ_IDS_2024-25.**

Name of work: Provision of Elephant Intrusion Detection System for detection of elephant movements with tracking and Level crossing alerts to increase Safety and capacity enhancement over N.F. Railway in Lumding and Tinsukia Division.

Advised Value: ₹37,96,62,821.53.

Earnest Money: ₹20,48,40,000. **E-tender will be closed at 15.00 hrs. on 24-01-2025.** The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website www.irops.gov.in

General Manager (S&T), Mallaigon

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

"Serving Customers with a smile"

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

OPEN TENDER NOTICE (Through e-Tender)

On the behalf of President of India e-Tenders are invited by the Dy.CMM/GSD/NWR, Jodhpur. Name of item: BOGIE BOLSTER arrangement conforming to ICF spec No ICF/MD/Spec. 094 and STR, No. ICF/MD/Spec. 147. Rev.2, Amend-1, to ICF Drg. No. "T-0-4-654, Col. 1. Alt h/4.

Approximate Cost of items: ₹19999584/- (Rs One Crore Ninety Nine Lac Ninety Nine Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Four Only). **Earnest Money to be deposited:** ₹399990/- (Rs Three Lac Ninety Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Only). **Last date and time for Submission of e-tender and Opening of e-tender:** Before 15-JAN-25 14:25, After 15-JAN-25 14:25.

Web site from e-tender forms can be obtained: www.irops.gov.in. **Address of the NIT issuing Office:** Office of Dy. Chief Material Manager/GSD NWR, Jodhpur 342001 (Rajasthan). **Note:** 1.Manual offers are not allowed against this tender, and any such manual offer received shall be summarily rejected. 2. Cost of tender document & EMD online through e-transfers i.e. through payment gateway facility on the IREPS website.

1509/PS/24

Follow us on: www.facebook.com/nwrailways www.instagram.com/nwrailways www.youtube.com/nwrailways

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

For and on behalf of the President of India, E-Tenders on "Two Packet System" are invited from the Firms/ Agencies/ Contractors of repute having technical expertise and financial solvency for the following work:

(i) GeM Bid No. & Date : Gem Bid No. CEM/2024/B/5758434 Dated : 28.12.2024. (ii) Name of work with its location and completion period : On Board Services (i.e. On Board Housekeeping Service & Linen distribution) in Special trains originating from Dhanbad division for one year. Completion period -1 Years. (iii) Approx. Cost of the work : ₹4,26,64,558.84 (Rupees four crores twenty six lakhs sixty-four thousand five hundred fifty eight and paise eighty four) only. (iv) Earnest Money to be deposited : ₹3,63,40,000 (Rupees three lakhs thirty three thousand four hundred) only. (v) Date & time for closing of e-tender : 16:00 hrs on 18.01.2025. Date & time for opening of e-tender : 16:30 hrs. on 18.01.2025. (vi) Website : particulars : <http://www.gem.gov.in> No manual tender will be accepted against e-tendering.

Divisional Railway Manager ECR/Dhanbad
PR/01809/DHN/Mech./T/24-25/40

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY

Auction/Corrigendum Notice No. 16/2024-25

Additional date of e-Auction published in January-2025

Following additional e-auction date is added in published e-auction dates of January-2025, in which the remaining lots of the auction held on 27 December-24 will be auctioned. No new lot will be put up for auction. **Additional e-Auction dates:** 02 January-2025. **Jurisdiction of lots:** Sr. DMM/BSS. Other e-Auction dates and terms and conditions, as published vide Auction Notice No. 15/2024-25, will remain unchanged. This notice is also available on NE Railway website on www.ner.indianrailways.gov.in

Principal Chief Material Manager CPRO/S-80 Gorakhpur

"DO NOT TRAVEL WITH INFLAMMABLE ARTICLE IN TRAIN"

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE

No. COS/CR/PUB/e-Tender/19/0162 Date: 28/12/2024. The following e-Tenders can be accessed under the link www.irops.gov.in. Offers for such e-Tender can be submitted only electronically by accessing the link www.irops.gov.in to login to E-Tender Stores/Supply. Vendors may also contact the following officials to obtain clarification regarding particular tender or IREPS related information if any. Dy.CMM/HQ/CLW/ Chittaranjan, 0341-2525594 or SMM/CON/HQ, 0341-2535631. **Address:** Office of the PCMM /CLW/ Chittaranjan, SL No.: [1]. **Tender No.:** 75243943. **Brief Description of Item:** HEX. SCREW M12x25x1.75P Zn. Plated (Passivated) for WAG-9HC/P-7 Loco for CLW/CRJ as per Drg. No. IS: 1364 S 8.8 Gr A to IS: 1367 [Warranty period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]. **Quantity:** 37824.00 Set. **Earnest Money Deposit (Rupees):** ₹257200. **Tender Closing Date & Time (IST):** 20/01/2025 at 11:00 AM.

PR/6758 PCMM/CLW/Chittaranjan
Like us on : www.facebook.com/clwrailways

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

Corrigendum Notice

e-tender is invited on behalf of the President of India for the under mentioned work:- **Tender No.:** ECR-CAO-C-3-EPCC-03-24-25 **Name of work:** Construction and Commissioning of Maintenance facilities for Vande Bharat Coaching complex at Patliputra, Patna (Bihar) including all Civil/Electrical, Mechanical, S&T and Telecom-works for East Central Railway on EPC mode.

Following corrigendum is issue in connection with above tender:

1. Date and time for Pre-Bid Conference: 03.01.2025 at 12.15 hrs.

2. Date and time for closing of tender: 14.02.2025 at 12.15 hrs.

The above e-tender document alongwith full information is available on website <http://www.irops.gov.in>.

Note: In case of any discrepancies found in tender notice, English version will be final. Tenderers are requested to visit the website <http://www.irops.gov.in> atleast 15 days before last date of closing, for latest corrigendum/corrections etc in connection with this e-tender. Any change/addendum/ corrigendum will be published on IREPS website only.

CAO/Con/South/MHX, Patna
PR/1805/CONS/Engg./C/24-25/36

Cops bust meth cartel in Chennai, seize drugs worth ₹22cr, arrest 10

Chennai: Chennai Police's Anti-Narcotics Intelligence Unit busted a methamphetamine (meth) manufacturing and peddling cartel, arrested 10 suspects & seized 17.815kg of the drug — valued at Rs 22 crore in the international market — besides attaching assets worth Rs 5 crore, reports Selvaraj A.

The key suspect among those arrested is a Class 10 dropout, Lakshmi Narasimhan, a meth cook convicted earlier in a ketamine smuggling case. Narasimhan — who was arrested by an ANIU team in Madurai — had been preparing meth on the terrace of a house in Virudhnagar since early this year. The ten arrested persons have been remanded in judicial custody.

U-29

ODISHA COMPUTER APPLICATION CENTRE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Enq.No.:- OCAC-NEGP-INFRA-0018-2024-24089

Odisha Computer Application Centre (OCAC) invites Request for Proposal (RFP) for selection of Agency for Facility Management Services (FMS) for OSWAN Project. For details please visit websites www.ocac.in & www.odisha.gov.in. **The bid shall be submitted in electronic mode only in the portal <https://envida.odisha.gov.in> latest by 22.01.2025, 02:00 PM.** OCAC reserves the right to accept/reject any/all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

General Manager(Admin), OCAC, Plot No.-N-17-D, Acharya Vihar, P.O.-RRL, Bhubaneswar-751013. Ph.-2567280/ 2567064/ 2567295

OIPR-16003/11/0036/24-25

ANDHRA PRADESH POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Govt. of A.P Undertaking)

VIDYUT SOUDHA :- VIJAYAWADA-520004

NIT No.610001771

APGENCO invites Online tenders for "Dr.NTTPS-Stage-III-Ash Pond-Providing rock toe with graded filters at EL(+) 40.00M and Strengthening of Bund No.II with homogeneous soil(gravel) between EL(+)40.00M to EL(+)45.00M from Ch.5300 to Ch.1400M" through APGENCO e-Procurement platform. **Bid Start date & time:** 02-01-2025, 5:00PM. **Bid Submission closing date & time:** 20.01.2025, 3.30 PM. **Technical RFx Response Opening Date & time:** 27.01.2025 at 3.00 PM. for further details visit: www.apgenco.gov.in or (<https://etender.apgenco.gov.in/irj/portal>). Phone: (0866) 2526813, 2526425

DIPR No.3430P/CLADVT/11/2021-22 Dt.31.12/2024

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Tender Notice Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement System)

N.I.T. No.	20-A, B, C, D, E /2024-25/WE
Name of work with its location	A. Construction of a boundary wall to prevent encroachment in a high dense area in the S/O SSE/WDKZ-I under ADEN/E-II. B. Improvement to damaged sunshade and repairs to roofs of Block No. 158-170 at DKZ-II Railway Colony in the section of SSF/WDKZ under ADEN/E-II. C. Provision of new pipe lines and improvement of water supply arrangement/PVC tanks in lieu of worn out pipe lines at Sawa Nagar colony, Chanakya puri colonies' Enclave, Lajpat Nagar Colony, Sarojini Nagar railway officer's Enclave to camp office at MR and MSOR in the section of under ADEN/E-III. D. Repair to side plaster and exterior white wash from outside in SP Marg BRSQ in the section of SSE/W/SP Marg under ADEN/E-III. E. Construction of SSE/Works Office campus at Chanakya Rail Enclave Chanakya puri in the S/O SSE/W/HNMZ under ADEN/E-III.
Approx. Cost of work:	A. ₹93.94,612.73 B. ₹74.99,980.00 C. ₹3,28,71,742.05 D. ₹1,44,99,943.52 E. ₹54.99,999.20
EMD Amount	A. ₹1,87,900/- B. ₹1,50,000/- C. ₹3,14,400/- D. ₹2,22,500/- E. ₹1,10,000/-
Completion period of work	A. 04 Months B. 06 Months C. 06 Months D. 06 Months E. 06 Months
Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Closing date of tender on 21.01.2025 at 15:00 hrs.

Website particulars notice board
location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc.

Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.irops.gov.in

No.: 128-W/269/02T-25/WE/NIT/20 A, B, C, D, E
Dated: 30.12.2024

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

On its 20th anniv, Quad reiterates support for free & open Indo-Pacific

Next Summit Of Grouping In India This Year

TIMES NEWS NETWORK



PM Modi tweeted this picture from his iconic moments of 2024 along with Quad leaders in Wilmington, USA

New Delhi: Quad foreign ministers issued a joint statement Tuesday to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Quad cooperation, reaffirming commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific and to working together in responding to the future needs of the region.

As four partners, India, Australia, Japan and the US under the Quad mechanism share a vision of a free and open Indo-Pacific that is peaceful, stable, and prosperous, underpinned by effective

regional institutions. According to the statement, the ministers reaffirmed "unwavering support" for Asean's centrality and unity as well as mainstreaming and implementation of the Asean Outlook on the Indo-Pacific.

"We respect Pacific-led regional architecture, foremost the Pacific Islands Forum. We are also steadfast in our support for the Indian Ocean Rim Association, the

region's premier organisation," said the statement.

The joint statement is significant for India as it prepares to host the next Quad summit in 2025. While there have been concerns about the incoming Trump administration's commitment to alliances and partnerships, foreign minister S Jaishankar has expressed confidence Trump will continue to support Quad like

he did during his first term as president. Amid growing Chinese assertiveness in the region, successive US presidents have backed Quad. While the grouping was revived under Trump with meetings at the level of foreign ministers, his successor Joe Biden upgraded Quad to the summit level.

Twenty years ago, as the statement recalled, in response to the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami, Australia, India, Japan and the US came together in service to the people of the region for the first time as the grouping now known as the Quad. The tsunami was one of the worst disasters in history, claiming the lives of nearly a quarter million people and displacing 1.7 million across 14 countries.

HC slams probe agency for 'casual approach'

►Continued from P 1

The investigating agency filed a chargesheet under IPC and trial commenced before a judicial magistrate first class (JMFC) in Mehsana. The victim testified in 2018, explicitly stating that she was 15 years old at the time of the alleged offence. It was only in 2024, when all the evidence had been documented and final arguments were imminent, that the public prosecutor brought to the court's notice that Pocco sections 11 and 12 should have been invoked and the case should be transferred to a special sessions court. Subsequently, Pocco charges were applied and the case was transferred to a special sessions court.

The fresh development

resulted in the issuance of a warrant against the accused, who approached the HC through advocate Keval Maharaja for quashing of the FIR and the case as well as against the invocation of Pocco charges.

Justice Sandeep Bhatt sought clarification from the prosecutors, investigators and the court regarding such an oversight.

After their responses to the court's queries, the judge stated that "no action had been taken by the learned assistant public prosecutor nor had cognisance of such fact been taken by the learned presiding officer conducting the trial. Even the defence has failed to point out the relevant aspects before the concerned court." The high court criticised the investigating agency for its "casual approach" and for conducting the investigation in a "mechanical manner".

The HC declined to quash the case but permitted the accused to pursue their issue before a Pocco court.

गाजियाबाद नगर निगम

(I.S.O. 14001, 18001 एवं 19001 प्रमाणित संस्था)

पत्रांक—571 / मुोकन03मि0 / 2024—25 दिनांक— 31.12.2024

ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है, कि गाजियाबाद नगर निगम सीमान्तगत स्थित समस्त आवासीय/अनावासीय भवनों से होर-दू-बोर कड़ा कलेक्शन के एवज में 3+2 बंकी अवधि के लिये यूजर चार्ज की प्रसूती कृपया जाने हेतु निर्धारित आरंभकालीन को अनुसार दिनांक 01.01.2025 से दिनांक 15.01.2025 तक ई-निविदा के माध्यम से सार्वजनिक ई-निविदाये आमंत्रित की जाती है। उक्त कार्य हेतु निविदा-शुल्क अंकन रु० 10,000/- (जो नगर निगम के बैंक खाता संख्या 628601041088 आईएफएससी कोड ICIC0006286, आईसीसीआईसीआई बैंक, शाखा राजनगर में जमा/आरंभकालीन को जायेगी, जिसकी रसीद की प्रति स्कैन कर संलग्न करते हुए वेबसाइट पर अपलोड की जानी अनिवार्य है) तथा धरोहर राशि के रूप में अंकन 10.00 लाख रु० की एक.डी.आर. (जो लेखाधिकारी, गाजियाबाद नगर निगम के पक्ष में बंधक होगी) निर्धारित है। उक्त कार्य हेतु इच्छुक व्यक्ति अपनी निविदा ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट वेबसाइट <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर प्रकाशन की तिथि से दिनांक 15.01.2025 को अपराह्न 2.00 बजे तक डाउनलोड/अपलोड कर सकते हैं। प्राप्त तकनीकी निविदाये दिनांक 15.01.2025 को साय 04:00 बजे नगर निगम मुख्यालय चतुर्थ तल कक्ष सं-09 में खोली जायेगी। विस्तृत निविदा सूचना ई-प्रोक्योरमेंट वेबसाइट <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर देखी जा सकती है।

मुख्य कर निर्वाहन अधिकारी गाजियाबाद नगर निगम

S. E. RAILWAY – TENDER

Tender Notice No.: e-Tender/2024/39, Date: 30.12.2024. For and on behalf of President of India, the Divisional Railway Manager (Engg.), South Eastern Railway, Kharagpur-721301 invites e-tender for the following works before 15.00 hrs. on the date mentioned against items and will be opened at 15.30 hrs. **Sl.No.-1. Tender No.:** E-KGP-WEST-39-2024. **Description of work:** Miscellaneous P.Way (Zonal)/Track works from Km 128 to Km 233.20 in Kharagpur-Tatanagar section for the period up to 30.9.2025 under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Jhargram. **Tender Value:** ₹ 9,73,47,351.92. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 6,36,700. **Sl.No.-2. Tender No.:** E-KGP-South-49-2024. **Description of work:** Repair of several Level Crossing Roads under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Bhadrak section under Sr. DEN/South/Kharagpur. **Tender Value:** ₹ 1,97,09,718.12. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,48,600. **Sl.No.-3. Tender No.:** E-KGP-South-50-2024. **Description of work:** Repairing of cess with piling in Betnoti-Baripada-Bangripoti section under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Balasore. **Tender Value:** ₹ 4,85,39,245.70. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 3,92,700. **Sl.No.-4. Tender No.:** E-KGP-South-51-2024. **Description of work:** Provision of Deep Tube Well, Hand Tube Well and Tank staging with pipe line work and construction of pump house at Halidipada, Nilgiri road, Bhanagabazar, Markona platform in Rupsa-Rantil section under ADEN/Balasore (3rd Call). **Tender Value:** ₹ 1,44,68,982.39. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,22,400. **Sl.No.-5. Tender No.:** E-KGP-South-52-2024. **Description of work:** Replacement of existing pinned bridges (10 nos.) in Kharagpur-Rupsa section of Kharagpur division under ADEN(South)/Kharagpur (5th Call). **Tender Value:** ₹ 4,82,92,883.62. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 3,91,500. **Sl.No.-6. Tender No.:** E-KGP-HQ-44-2024. **Description of work:** (i) Strengthening of embankments prone to slope/toe failure by providing Bulah Pilling & sub-bank in Panskura-Haldia & Tamluk-Digha section and (ii) Widening, strengthening & Improvement/Stabilization of Cess—45507 Mtr. in Panskura-Haldia section under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Tamluk. **Tender Value:** ₹ 14,31,47,669.37. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 8,65,700. **Sl.No.-7. Tender No.:** E-KGP-HQ-45-2024. **Description of work:** Strengthening of embankment and Canvas Drain—10208 metre in Panskura-Haldia & Tamluk-Digha section under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Tamluk. **Tender Value:** ₹ 29,21,62,779.82. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 16,10,800. **Sl.No.-8. Tender No.:** E-KGP-EAST-55-2024. **Description of work:** Execution of work of construction of a new 60 bedded running room at Shalimar station under the jurisdiction of DEN/East/Kharagpur. **Tender Value:** ₹ 3,31,24,165.26. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 3,15,600. **Sl.No.-9. Tender No.:** E-KGP-EAST-56-2024. **Description of work:** Execution of work of conducting final location survey for removal of PSR for Kharagpur Division. **Tender Value:** ₹ 50,98,663.64. **Earnest Money:** ₹ 1,02,000. **Tender Document Cost:** ₹ 0 (for Sl.No. 1 to 9 each). **Date of Opening:** 16.01.2025 (for Sl.No. 1), 15.01.2025 (for Sl.No. 2 to 4), 22.01.2025 (for Sl.No. 5), 13.01.2025 (for Sl.No. 6), 17.01.2025 (for Sl.No. 7) & 09.01.2025 (for Sl.No. 8 & 9). **Completion Period of the work:** 09 months (for Sl.No. 1 & 8), 12 months (for Sl.No. 2 to 6 each), 18 months (for Sl.No. 7) & 06 months (for Sl.No. 9). **Bidding start date:** From 02.01.2025 and up to 15.00 hrs. on 16.01.2025 (for Sl.No. 1), from 01.01.2025 and up to 15.00 hrs. on 15.01.2025 (for Sl.No. 2 to 4 each), from 08.01.2025 and up to 15.00 hrs. on 22.01.2025 (for Sl.No. 5), from 30.12.2024 and up to 15.00 hrs. on 13.01.2025 (for Sl.No. 6), from 03.01.2025 and up to 17.00 hrs. on 17.01.2025 (for Sl.No. 7) & from 26.12.2024 and up to 15.00 hrs. on 09.01.2025 (for Sl.No. 8 & 9 each). Interested tenderers may visit website www.irops.gov.in for full details/ descriptions/specifications of the tenders and submit their bids online. In no case manual tenders for these works will be accepted. **N.B.:** Prospective bidders may regularly visit www.irops.gov.in to participate in all tenders.

(PR-962)

JALGAON CITY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

E-Tender Notice No.565 for 2024-25 (Extension No.04)

E-Tender is invited for the work of Jalgaon City Water Supply Project under Centrally Sponsored Amrut 2.0. Tender schedule of above notice is extended up to 06.01.2025 due to issued corrigendum No.03 on portal. Other conditions will remain same as per published notice on <https://mahatenders.gov.in>.

Date: 30.12.2024

Sd/-
(Dnyaneshwar Dhare)
Commissioner and Administrator
Jalgaon City Municipal Corporation Jalgaon

TOURISM CORPORATION OF GUJARAT LIMITED (TCGL)

(A Government of Gujarat undertaking)

Udyog Bhavan, Block No. 16, 4th Floor, Sector-11, Gandhinagar - 382 011

Website: <https://www.gujarattourism.com>

TENDER NOTICE

Bids are invited from reputed and experienced parties towards "Selection of an Agency for Operation & Maintenance of National Salt Satyagrah Memorial (NSSM) and Saifee Villa at Dandi, Gujarat".

The project requirements, technical specifications, eligibility criteria, selection process, etc. are included in the Tender documents, which shall be available for download from the websites: <https://tender.nprocure.com/> and <https://www.gujarattourism.com> from 01/01/2025 onwards. The last date for online submission of the Technical and Financial Bid is 15/01/2025 up to 6:00 pm, and physical submission of Technical Bid only is 17/01/2025 up to 3:00 pm.

Managing Director

ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, BHOPAL

Saket Nagar, Bhopal-462020 (India)

NIT No. AIIMS BHOPAL-TENDER/NIT/24-25/012 Date: 31/12/2024

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)

AIIMS Bhopal invites e-Tender from registered manufacturers/dealers/distributors/Contractors for below mentioned items:

E-Tender ID No.	Required Items/Services at AIIMS Bhopal	Est. Cost
09/NIT/CIVIL/ABEU/ AIIMS/BPL/2024-25	External Development and Maintenance Works Including Boundary Wall/External Water Supply (CPVC/PPR/GI) of Entire Campus at AIIMS Bhopal.	Not Disclosed
AIIMS/BPL/USG/ OBGY/24/GTE/053	SITC of Advance USG Machine with Shear Wave Elastography and Contrast Enhancement	50,00,000/-
AIIMS/BPL/Rule-166(iii)/Precision Medicine /24-25/005	Notice Inviting Tender for Procurement of Consumables for Precision Medicine under PAC	22,56,224/-
AIIMS/BPL/HPC/ DENTAL CONSUMABLES/ 2024-25/010	Tender for Rate Contract For Supply of Dental Consumables for Department of Dentistry at AIIMS Bhopal.	95,00,000/-
AIIMS/BPL/Slide Scanner/24/GTE/052	SITC of Digital Slide Scanning System with Research Grade Microscope or Image Analysis Software	2,40,00,000/-

For further details of the above e-Tenders, the prospective bidders may please visit email : www.aiimsbhopal.edu.in and seoffice@aiimsbhopal.edu.in and spso@aiimsbhopal.edu.in Tenders may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal www.aiimsbhopal.edu.in and CPP Portal www.eprocure.gov.in. Any corrigendum/ amendments related to this NIT shall be published in the same websites only.

I/c Senior Procurement Cum Store Officer For & On behalf of Director, AIIMS Bhopal.

NORTHERN RAILWAY CORRIGENDUM

No: C-6/STBA/Policy-II/2018

The tender for the appointment of "Station Ticket Booking Agent" for NSG-4, NSG-5 & NSG-6 category stations in the jurisdiction of Northern Railway, Delhi Division is to be opened on 21.01.2025 at 15:10 hrs. Station Ticket Booking Agent (STBA) of NSG-4 and NSG-5 category stations i.e. Noli, Modinagar, Baraut and Pataudi Road respectively will be appointed for Night Shift only whereas for NSG-6 category stations STBA will be appointed for all shifts. All other terms and conditions will remain the same.

3992/2024

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निर्वाचन भवन, लाडपुर, मसुरी, बाढ़वांस, रिंग रोड, देहरादून

दूरभाष 0135-2662263, 2662224 टेलीफैक्स 0135-2662251, 2662257 Email: sec-uttarakhand@uk.gov.in

विज्ञापन संख्या: 2076 / राशि/3070 / 4234 / 2024

ई-निविदा-मनपत्र मुद्रण (कागज सहित) हेतु

राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग, उत्तराखण्ड द्वारा विस्तरीय प्रयासों के सामान्य निर्वाचन-2024-25 में लगभग 66500 पदों हेतु 70 जी.एस.एम. 24-1, सफेद, हवा, गुलाबी एवं नीले रंग के कागज पर अलग-अलग प्रकार के विभिन्न चुनाव चिह्नों के लगभग 2.62 करोड़ (दो करोड़ सत्तर लाख) फोटो रहित मानचित्र (कागज सहित) के मुद्रण हेतु अनुमति फर्मा, जिनके पास पूर्व में उपर्युक्त कार्य का अनुभव हो तथा ई-निविदा आवेदनलिखित शर्तों को पुरा करे हों, से ही ई-निविदा के माध्यम से ऑनलाइन (Online) तकनीकी बिड (Technical Bid) एवं वित्तीय बिड (Financial Bid) निम्न कार्यक्रमानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

क्र.सं.	विवरण/कार्यक्रम	निर्धारित तिथि
1.	वेबसाइट https://ukntenders.gov.in पर निविदा प्रपत्र उपलब्ध होने की तिथि	दिनांक 31.12.2024
2.	तकनीकी एवं वित्तीय बिडों को ऑनलाइन अपलोड करने की तिथि	दिनांक 31.12.2024 से दिनांक 14.01.2025 अपराह्न 2:00 बजे तक
3.	प्रीबिड कार्यसत्र	दिनांक 06.01.2025 को पूर्वाह्न 11:30 बजे
4.	निमोलाईन को तीन पृष्ठ-पृष्ठ (फाइल में) सील कर तालीनों को एक लिफाफे में सील कर आयोग मुख्यालय में उपलब्ध कराने की अंतिम तिथि	दिनांक 14.01.2025 अपराह्न 2:30 बजे तक
5.	तकनीकी बिड खोलने की तिथि	दिनांक 14.01.2025 अपराह्न 3:00 बजे
6.	वित्तीय बिड खोलने की तिथि	तकनीकी बिड खोलने के उपरान्त निर्धारित की जायेगी।
7.	निविदा आवेदन पत्र शुल्क	रु० 5000.00+18% G.S.T.

निविदा के संबंध में समस्त शर्तें एवं सूचनार <https://ukntenders.gov.in> पर दिनांक 14.01.2025 अपराह्न 2:00 बजे तक उपलब्ध रहेंगी।

सचिव,
राज्य निर्वाचन आयोग,
उत्तराखण्ड

MADHYA PRADESH TOURISM BOARD

Corporate Identification Number (CIN) : U75302MP2017NPL043078

6th Floor, Lily Trade Wing, Jahangirabad, Bhopal, (M.P.) India

Pincode : 462008, Web : www.tourism.mp.gov.in

'EXPRESSION OF INTEREST'

NIT & SYSTEM No.	PROJECT NAME
NIT No. : 7815/ MPTB/2024 and SYSTEM No. 2024_MPTB_392080 dated 31.12.2024	"Expression of Interest (EOI) for Creation, Operation, Upkeep, and Stewardship of the "Phoolbagh Experience Zone"- A Premier Tourism Destination In Gwalior Under Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme.
NIT No. : 7815/ MPTB/2024 and SYSTEM No. 2024_MPTB_392085 dated 31.12.2024	"Expression of Interest (EOI) for Creation, Operation, Upkeep, and Steward

(The writer is founder president of Avtar

Become a beginner: We stay resilient whenever we push the ego



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Why TGES?	What's in it for YOU?	Who are we looking for?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A Legacy of Excellence redefining education through innovation, integrity and impact since 1982. ➤ A Culture of Growth for educators to thrive through training credits, mentorship opportunities and leadership pathways. ➤ A Community of Changemakers where passionate colleagues bring decades of wisdom and fresh ideas. ➤ A Student-Centered Approach wherein every decision and effort is focused on transforming student lives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A Chance to leave YOUR MARK on THOUSANDS of students and fellow educators. ➤ A Vibrant, Supportive Community where you are valued and empowered. ➤ Opportunities to Lead, Grow And Transform - both yourself and the future. 	<p>We're seeking educators who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dare to dream big and inspire bigger. ➤ Thrive on innovation, relevance, and meaningful relationships. ➤ Embrace change with purpose and perseverance.

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Share your Resume anytime through :
E-mail : recruitment@tges.org
WhatsApp : 9909998118

Date: 5 January 2025, Sunday
Time : 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Venue : S N Kansagra School,
University Road, Opp. Akashwani Quarters, Rajkot.



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Pinarayi slams
Maha neta for
calling Kerala
'mini-Pak'

T'puram: Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan condemned Tuesday Maharashtra minister Nitesh Rane's recent comments referring to the southern state as a "mini-Pakistan". Calling the statement "provocative and condemnable," Pinarayi said it reflects Sangh Parivar's intent to alienate regions where they

Murder-accused's
party: CPM in spot

Kerala's governing CPM, on the defensive after many of its functionaries were recently found guilty in Periyar double-murder case in Kasaragod, has courted another controversy after its top functionaries from Kannur attended Tuesday the house-warming function of a party worker convicted of a BJP activist's murder. CPM Kannur district secretary MV Jayarajan, state committee member P Jayarajan and others attended the house-warming of K Sreejith, prime accused and one of the convicts in 2008 murder of BJP activist Nikhil Malayattu. **TNN**

struggle to gain influence. "Sangh Parivar spreads hatred and alienation to marginalise areas that challenge their ideology," the CM said, questioning the suitability of BJP's Rane for his position. Vijayan also criticised BJP brass for failing to address what he termed a serious violation of constitutional values. Congress general secretary KC Venugopal also denounced Rane's remarks, accusing BJP of harbouring animosity towards Kerala. "Calling Kerala a 'mini-Pakistan' is a disgraceful attack on a state recognised globally for its excellence in education, healthcare, and communal harmony," he posted on X. Rane's comments were made during a rally in Pune's Purandar tehsil Sunday. **TNN & AGENCIES**

6 launches in first 6 months:
A busy 2025 ahead for Isro

Vyommitra,
Nisar Missions
Among Them

Surendra.Singh
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: 2025 is set to be a busy and important calendar year for Isro as space minister Jitendra Singh announced on Tuesday that half-a-dozen big-ticket missions have been lined up for launches in the first half of the new year that will include sending a female robot to space as a prelude to the final Gaganyaan manned mission and launching the world's most expensive Indo-US co-produced earth imaging NISAR satellite. During a press meet to list India's space achievements in 2024 and informing about upcoming launches, Singh said Isro will first launch an advanced navigation satellite NVS-02 in Jan. The GSLV launch will mark Isro's 100th mission.



Isro will first launch an advanced navigation satellite NVS-02 in Jan, said space minister Jitendra Singh

Thereafter, Isro will send Vyommitra, a female humanoid built by Isro, to space as part of the unmanned Gaganyaan mission. This will prelude the manned mission and will be exactly similar to the final manned mission, except for humans. "Once everything goes right in Vyommitra mission, astronauts will be sent to space," the minister said.

He also said the Indo-US joint mission NASA-ISRO SAR (NISAR) Satellite, which

is considered to be the world's most expensive satellite at Rs 12,505 crore, will be launched around March. "This satellite will scan nearly all land and ice every 12 days and will have very high resolution," the minister said.

Singh also said Isro was born in 1969 when the US was busy sending humans to the Moon. But now the situation has changed as Isro is launching US satellites as he refers to the upcoming commercial launch of a satellite for an American customer, which will be used for mobile communication. "We have the LVM3-M5 mission scheduled for the first quarter for an international customer. India is also launching a satellite for direct mobile communication for the US by Feb or March, showcasing our evolving abilities," the minister said.

Isro chairman S Somnath said, "2025 will be a very exciting year as Isro will launch four GSLV rockets and three PSLV launches as well as an SSLV launch in the new year".

Singh: SpaDeX
mission fully
indigenous

New Delhi: A day after the successful launch of SpaDeX mission, space minister Jitendra Singh Tuesday said Jan 7 is the likely date for docking of two satellites of the mission, which is "totally indigenous", reports Surendra Singh.

On X, Singh said, "India has become the fourth country to join select league of nations to achieve space docking, through its own indigenously developed 'Bharatiya Docking System.' On the two satellites called 'Chaser' and 'Target', Singh told the media, "This is certainly the first such mission with smaller satellites. We will scale it up with heavier satellites and this docking technology will help us in setting up the Bhartiya Antariksh Station and subsequent missions to it."

Here's how Isro will attempt
historic rendezvous & docking

Chethan.Kumar
@timesofindia.com

Bengaluru: Isro's ambitious Space Docking Experiment (SpaDeX) mission, scheduled to perform the docking manoeuvre on Jan 7, will see the two satellites perform a carefully choreographed orbital dance before attempting to dock with each other.

This is how: The launch has given a small difference in velocity between the satellites. At 10 metres per second, the satellites will grow apart by about 20km as early as the evening of Dec 31.

Once the satellites reach this separation, Isro will begin controlling their relative

TOI Explains

positions. "We'll start using the onboard propulsion systems on one of the two satellites to arrest the drift so that we maintain the 20km distance between the two satellites," M Sankaran, director, UR Rao Satellite Centre (URSC), said, explaining the intricate sequence of events that will unfold.

Like twins, the satellites will go around in the same orbit at the same speed. The mission timeline includes a four-day waiting period to achieve optimal solar orientation, crucial for generating sufficient power during the docking procedure.

"At this point again we'll initiate the drift of the two satellites so that the 20km distance is progressively reduced to 5km, 1.5km, and so on. And after we reach 5km, we'll enable the inter-satellite radio frequency (RF) link so the satellites talk to each other and exchange their own position, attitude, etc, which will enable us to evaluate the software logics," Sankaran said.

Several new sensors developed by the Laboratory



Once docked, the satellites will demonstrate power transfer capabilities, with electricity flowing from one satellite to the other to power a heater, confirming successful connection

For Electro Optics Systems (LEOS) in Bengaluru will be evaluated for their fitness to initiate the docking sequence, which will start once the inter-satellite distance is reduced to 1.5km, utilising three different guidance algorithms.

The docking mechanism involves a "hugging" action. "The final approach will be particularly delicate. With a constant velocity of about 10 millimetres per second, the chaser satellite will go and enter the target satellite. The latches will be released and clamps on both sides will try

SpaDeX mission
will see the two
satellites perform
a carefully
choreographed
orbital dance
before attempting
to dock with
each other

to grab each of the satellites," Sankaran added.

Once they hold each other together, the ring which has been extended on the chaser satellite will be retracted so that the target satellite will be pulled towards the chaser satellite and the two will become a single unit.

Once docked, the satellites will demonstrate power transfer capabilities, with electricity flowing from one

satellite to the other to power a heater, confirming successful connection. The combined unit will then be controlled by a single satellite's control system, demonstrating technology crucial for future space station operations, including India's planned Bhartiya Antriksh station.

The SpaDeX mission represents a long journey from concept to reality. "This work, as a thought experiment, started around 1989, and at the time nobody thought that this was required for us, but the tenacity was there. When the project was approved in 2016, we were able to realise it over several years," Sankaran said.

The mission required extensive preparation and testing. Isro developed several testbeds to validate the mechanism as well as the docking sequence, the sensors, etc. It has been a combined effort of so many people across Isro centres and the industry," Sankaran said.

The successful completion of this mission would mark a significant milestone in India's space capabilities, particularly in developing technologies necessary for future space station operations and satellite servicing missions. The ability to dock spacecraft in orbit is a crucial capability possessed by only a few space-faring nations. India is now on the cusp of joining this elite group.

NIA clocked 100% conviction rate in 2024

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: National Investigation Agency (NIA) secured a 100% conviction rate in 2024, with 68 accused convicted in the 25 cases decided by Special NIA courts across the country.

A total of 210 accused were arrested across key categories of crimes — left-wing extremism, North-East insurgency, Khalistani terrorism, gangster-terrorist-smuggler nexus etc — in 80 cases registered by NIA in 2024. A total 662 raids and searches were carried out by the agency across the country.

The year was marked by convictions of 68 accused (in 25

A total of 210
accused were
arrested across key
categories of
crimes in 80 cases
registered in 2024

cases) and chargesheeting of 408 accused. NIA got 137 properties/assets worth Rs 19.57 crore attached during 2024.

In terms of cases registered by NIA during the year, those linked to left-wing extremism and North-East insurgency topped the list at 28 and 18 cases respectively. Seven cases related to terrorism in J&K and four to Khalistan ele-

ments were also filed.

As many as 69 of the total 210 arrests made by NIA were in left wing extremism cases.

North-East insurgency was also high on NIA's radar with 15 arrests, of which five were in two cases linked to the Independence Day boycott call given by Pargash Baruah-led ULFA(I) in Assam.

The crackdown on the growing terrorist-gangster nexus was also a key highlight of the year. NIA arrested 14 accused in connection with foreign-based Khalistani terrorist cases during the year, which saw 101 searches and 13 arrests in these cases.

The agency's agile efforts

in cracking terror cases were evident in the fact it had chargesheeted Pakistan-based Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) chief Wadhawa Singh @ Babbar and five others in the murder of VHP leader Vikas Prabhakar @ Vikas Bagga in Punjab within months of the attack. Similarly, 10 accused, including foreign-based terrorist Goldy Brar, were expeditiously chargesheeted in the case pertaining to firing for extortion at the house of a businessman in Chandigarh by aides of Brar.

NIA scaled up its operations manifold in 2024, cracking the Rameshwaram cafe blast case within months.

TIMES ascent

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Apply online at career@delhitechnicalcampus.ac.in

Renaissance School
Bulandshahr (U.P.)

REQUIRES:

(A) **Academic Coordinator-** Cambridge International Curriculum.
(B) **PGT-** All subjects of Science, Commerce & Humanities Stream.
(C) **TGT & PRT -** All school subjects, CBSE & Cambridge International curriculum including French, Spanish, German Language, Music & Dance, Art, Sports Coaches.
(D) Assistant for Physics/Chemistry/Biology/Maths/S.St. Skill Labs & Library.
(E) Special Educator, Wellness Counsellor & Career Counsellor.
(F) Estate Manager, Transport In-charge, Security Officer, Receptionist, Inventory Manager.
(G) English Conversation Trainer/Teacher- Graduate with min. 2 yrs. of Experience in Voice and Accent Training.

Qualifications, Experience, Age & Salary : AS PER CBSE GUIDELINES
SALARY WILL NOT BE A CONSTRAINT FOR THE DESERVING CANDIDATES

Kindly send your latest CV/Resume alongwith coloured PP at
resume@renaissance-bsr.com, rennaissanceschoolbulandshahr@gmail.com
www.renaissance-bsr.com within 7 days. **Principal**

Parul® University
Vadodra, Gujarat 7789 50653 **NAAC GRADE A++**

DESIGN | FINE ARTS

Applications are invited for the posts of **Assistant/ Associate Professor & Professor** in following departments of above mentioned faculties

Design Fashion, Interior, Product, Visual Communication, Foundation Studies, Animation, VFX, Film Studies & UI/UX
Fine Arts Applied Arts, Painting & Sculpture

***No Salary Bar For Experienced And Deserving Candidates**

Qualifications & experience as per UGC norms. Interested candidates can apply within 10 days through www.paruluniversity.ac.in/careers **Registrar**

YADAVINDRA PUBLIC SCHOOL
Stadium Road, Patiala (Pb) affiliated to ICSE
0175-2217631, Web Site : www.ypspatiala.in

VACANCIES

Requires following with sufficient experience:-

- **English (PGT, TGT and PRT) Teacher.** (Master's Degree in subject and B.Ed.)
- **Mathematics Teacher.** (Master's Degree in subject and B.Ed.)
- **Geography Teacher** (Bachelor's Degree in subject).
- **Special Educator Teacher.** (Graduate, B.Ed. with Special Education in SLID/ID and RCI Number).
- **Music Teacher** (Bachelor's Degree in Music from recognized university).

Interested candidates can apply at headmaster@ypspatiala.in by 15th January 2025.

JOIN OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM!
Ashoka Education Foundation is looking for visionary leaders in education and management

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ASHOKA
Ashoka Education Foundation

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY GANDHINAGAR
PALAJ, GANDHINAGAR-382055, GUJARAT

Advertisement No.: IITGN/STAFF/RECT/02/2024-25

Online applications are invited from eligible Indian Nationals for appointment to the following posts of the Institute on direct / deputation basis :

Sr. No.	Name of Post	Number of vacancies	Pay Scale / Pay Level as per 7th CPC
1	Librarian	01 (UR)	Academic Level 14 (Rs. 1,44,200 - 2,18,200)
2	Superintending Engineer	01 (UR)	Level 13 (Rs. 1,23,100 - 2,15,900)

Appointment on deputation basis shall be made as per the Government of India rules. Further details regarding eligibility criteria, qualification, experience and prescribed application form is available at institute website: <https://iitgn.ac.in/careers/non-academic-staff>. The portal of on-line application will remain open up to 23:59 hrs. on 30 January 2025. **REGISTRAR**

INDIAN RAILWAY CATERING AND TOURISM CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of India Enterprise - Mini Ratna)
(CIN : L74990DL1999QH01070)

NOTICE FOR ENGAGEMENT OF APPRENTICES IN IRCTC/NORTH ZONE

Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC Ltd.), North Zone intends to engage the **12 Apprentices in COPA (Computer Operator & Programming Assistant) Trade**. The important dates, eligibility and other terms & conditions of engagement may be seen at <https://www.irctc.com> – HR & Career – New Openings w.e.f. **06.01.2025 onwards**.

DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL-NOIDA
Sector-30, Tel : 0120-4509100
Website: www.dpsnoida.co.in

VACANCIES 2025-26

Applications are invited from trained and experienced candidates with good academic record, excellent communication skills and proficiency in co-curricular activities for the following posts :

- ♦ **PGT:** English, Maths, Physics, Chemistry, History, Political Science, Geography, Legal Studies, Computer Science, Home Science, Economics, Fine Arts, Physical Education
- ♦ **TGT:** English, Hindi, Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, History/Civics, Geography, Computer Science, Vocal Music
- ♦ **PRT:** General PRT, English, Hindi, Maths, EVS, German, French, Spanish, Sanskrit, Computer Science, Counsellor, Dance, Music (Vocal & Instrumental), Sports Coaches
- ♦ **Receptionist / Front Office Executive, Data Entry operator**

Only shortlisted candidates will be called for the interview. Apply within 7days. Details on School Portal. **PRINCIPAL**

भारतीय सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान सेनापति, मणिपुर
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SENAPATI, MANIPUR
(An Autonomous Institute of National Importance under the MoE, Government of India)

Advt. No. 3/2/2024/F2 28.12.2024

FACULTY RECRUITMENT

IIIT Senapati Manipur invites applications from Indian Nationals for the recruitment of **Assistant Professors (Level 10) in (CSE), (ECE) and Mathematics**. The detailed advertisement, information brochure and online application forms are available in the website: www.iiitmanipur.ac.in. Last date for receipt of application is 20.01.2025.

Registrar (i/c)

AI AIRPORT SERVICES LIMITED
APPOINTMENT

AI AIRPORT SERVICES LIMITED wishes to fill in existing vacancies and maintain a wait-list for vacancies arising in future. Indian Nationals (Male & Female) who meet with the requirements stipulated herein for the following post on a fixed term contract basis, which may be renewed subject to their performance and the requirement.

Station	Particulars
Mumbai	Officer Security/Jr. Officer Security
Delhi	Officer Security/Jr. Officer Security

Govt. guidelines applicable for Reserved Categories.
For Application Format and all other details, please see **Advertisement** on our website- <https://aiasl.in/Recruitment> & <https://www.aiasl.in/Careers.aspx>

इंडियन बैंक Indian Bank
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
Corporate Office, 254-260, Avvai Shanmugam Salai, Royapettah, Chennai-600014

ENGAGEMENT OF INTERNAL OMBUDSMAN ON CONTRACTUAL BASIS

Name of the post	INTERNAL OMBUDSMAN
Mode of application	Offline application as per the prescribed format uploaded in career page of Banks' website www.indianbank.in
Age	Maximum 65 years as on 01.12.2024
Application Fee	₹ 100/- (inclusive of GST) for SC/ST/PwBD candidates. ₹ 1000/- (inclusive of GST) for all other Candidates.
Last date of receipt of application	27.01.2025
Eligibility Criteria and Experience	Please visit career page of www.indianbank.in for full details

Place: Chennai
Date: 31.12.2024

Chief General Manager (CDO / CLO)

यूको बैंक UCO BANK
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)
Human Resource Management Department, 4th Floor, 10, BTM Sarani, Kolkata-700001
ADV NO.: HO/HRM/RECR/2024-25/COM-70 Dated: 27.12.2024
UCO Bank, a Leading Public Sector Bank, Invites Online Applications for the Following Positions on Regular Basis:

S. No.	Position	Scale	Vacancies
1.	Economist	JMGS-I	02
2.	Fire Safety Officer	JMGS-I	02
3.	Security Officer	JMGS-I	08
4.	Risk Officer	MMGS-II	10
5.	IT Officer	MMGS-II	21
6.	Chartered Accountant	MMGS-II	25

Application Start Date 27th December 2024
Application End Date 20th January 2025

For detailed advertisement and application, please visit our website <https://ucobank.com> under "Career" section. Candidates meeting the requisite eligibility criteria may apply online only through the link available on Bank's website.

General Manager
Human Resource Management
Place: Kolkata
Corrigendum, if any will be posted on the Bank's website only
स्वयंका उपर्युक्त विवरण का | Honours Your Trust

The Institute of Cost Accountants of India
(Statutory Body under an Act of Parliament)
CMA Bhawan, 12, Sulder Street, Kolkata - 700 016

The Institute of Cost Accountants of India is a statutory body enacted by the Parliament under the Cost Accountants Act, 1959 to regulate and develop the profession of Cost and Management Accountancy in India. The Institute is governed by the Council, responsible for the affairs of the Institute and for discharging the functions under the Cost Accountants Act, 1959 having its Headquarters at Kolkata, Office at New Delhi, 4 Regional Councils at Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and New Delhi, 117 Chapters and 11 overseas centers. The Institute is looking for high profile and multi-faceted personality with leadership qualities, excellent communication, interpersonal and motivational skills for the position of:

Sl.	Name of the Position	No. of Post
1	Senior Officer	1

For further details and Application Form please log on to: <https://www.icmai.in>. The form duly filled in along with supporting documents should be submitted through online mode only, on or before **31st January, 2025 till 6 p.m.**

श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी पोर्ट, कोलकाता
Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata
(Formerly KOLKATA PORT TRUST)

Haldia Dock Complex, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata (erstwhile Kolkata Port Trust) is looking for professionals for engagement against the following position, on contract basis :

Name of the Post	No. of Posts	Essential Criteria	Consolidated Remuneration per month
Assistant Manager (HR) & P&IR Div., HDC, Haldia	04	i) 1 st Class degree in any discipline from a recognized University/Institution AND ii) Full time regular Master of Business Administration with specialisation in Human Resource Management with minimum 60% marks OR Full time regular Post Graduate Degree / Post Graduate Diploma in Personnel Management or in Human Resource Management with minimum 60% marks. The qualification is to be acquired from a recognized University / Institution.	₹ 75,000/-

For more details, last date of application and to apply as per prescribed format (in Hard Copies only), visit "Job Openings" of SMP-K website at <https://smp.smporkolkata.in>

Shree Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
Rotary General Hospital

100 Boded multispeciality hospital based at Ankleshwar, Gujarat is looking for following staff :

- **Cardiac Surgeon (CTVS)** • **Cardiac Anaesthetic**
- **Orthopedic Surgeon** • **Physician (MD Medicine)**
- **Intensivist**
- **Experienced ICU / Ward Resident Doctors (MBBS / BHMS)**
- **Nursing Superintendent** • **ICN** • **Experienced Nurses**
- **Cathlab Technician** • **Hospital Management Consultant**
- **Agency** • **Biomedical Engineer**. **Non-Medical Staff :**
- **Accounts Head** • **HR Head** • **Maintenance Head** • **IT Head**

Send your Resume / CV on : contact@sardarpatelhospital.com
hr@sardarpatelhospital.com Mo. No: 7227038842
Address : Station Rd, Opp. Railway Yard, Chiku Wadi, Ankleshwar, Gujarat - 393001.



श्रीमंत महाराज ज्योतिरादित्य सिंधिया जी

केंद्रीय संचार मंत्री और पूर्वोत्तर क्षेत्र विकास मंत्री भारत सरकार

को जन्मदिन की बहुत बहुत

हार्दिक शुभकामनाएँ



निवेदक
आशुतोष शर्मा
भाजपा नेता विधान सभा
क्षेत्र क्रमांक 04 जौरा
जिला मुरैना मध्यप्रदेश





Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority

Plot No.-01 Sector KP-IV, Greater Noida City-201301, G.B. Nagar U.P.
Website: www.greaternoidaauthority.in E-mail ID: authority@gnida.in

Ref. Proj./OSD(Elect.)/2024/E&M-2/748/ Date : 30/12/2024

Expression of Interest

Expression of Interest (EOI) for the beautification (Decorative Lighting) of various Entry & Exit Points and important Location of Greater Noida City.

1. Introduction
Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA) invites expression of interest (EOI) from reputed & competent agency/firm for the beautification (Decorative Lighting) of various Entry & Exit Points and important Location of Greater Noida City.

2. Scope of work
The Scope of work includes but is not limited to:
a) Innovative Lighting Design
b) Aesthetic Architectural lighting design
c) Design of lighting Control system
d) Lighting and control circuit details
e) Preparation of conceptual lighting design
f) Provision of Safeguarding of infrastructure to its maximum utilizable lift.
g) Submission of detail BOQ and preparation with Documents
h) Execution of work at site under engineer in charge supervision.

3. Tentative Project Cost:
To be decided after evolution of received EOI's by competing authority.

4. Eligibility Criteria:
Min 05 Years of experience in similar nature of lighting works. Successfully completed at least 03 projects of similar nature and complexity each costing not less than Rs. 01 Crore, or 2 Project costing not less than 02 Crores, or one project costing not less than Rs. 03 Crore.

5. Financial Capability:
Average Annual turnover of at least 01 crore in the last 03 financial years Solvency certificate of at least 05 crores from a scheduled bank.

6. Technical Capability:
Adequate resources, including equipment & manpower.
Valid Govt. registration for similar works.

7. Submission requirement:
Interest agency/firm should submit the following documents
a) Cover letter expressing interest.
b) Organizational profile, including company registration details.
c) Details of past projects (work order, completion certificates) of the similar nature.
d) Audited financial statements for the last 03 financial year.
e) Solvency certificate as issued by the competent authority.
f) GST registration & PAN Details.
g) Declaration of No Black Listing.

8. Evaluation Process
The submitted EOI's will be evaluated based on:
a) Financial Capability - 20 marks (maximum)
b) Technical Capability - 10 marks (maximum)
c) Experience in similar type lighting works
05-07 Years - 20 marks
07-10 Years - 25 marks
10 Years & above - 30 marks (maximum)
d) Presentation (40 marks maximum) -
Interested agency will arrange for a presentation, displaying work done in the past of a similar nature projecting aesthetics in lighting structure/lighting in accordance with list attached and clarifying the financial/cast evaluation for the each as described by the agency (25 marks maximum)
As well as the presentation will focus on how maximum utilizability of the proposed infrastructure (includes safety & security of the infrastructure against thefts and damages) can be achieved (15 marks maximum)

9. Important Date
a) Issue date of EOI : 01-01-2025
b) Pre-submission Meeting : 15-01-2025
c) Last date of submission of EOI (including presentation): 25-01-2025
d) Address for submission : Proposals should be submitted to the E & M department via E-Mail (smwcm2@gnida.in)
e) Evaluation Date : 31-01-2025

10. General terms & Condition:
a) GNIDA reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOI's without assigning any reasons.
b) The EOI doesn't constitute a commitment to award the contract.
c) Any false or misleading information will result in disqualification.
For further details or clarification interested firms/ agencies can contact the E & M Department of GNIDA.
Contact Person:- Saurabh Bhardwarj (Mob: 8279533268)

(Abhishek Pathak)
O.S.D. (Elect)

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Indian Council of Forestry Research & Education

(An Autonomous body under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India)
P.O. New Forest, Dehradun - 248 006, INDIA

Applications for the Post of Consultant/01 (Contractual)

Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education (ICFRE) invites applications for the post of **consultant (01)** for the purpose of updating, managing, monitoring and report generation in MIS and allied works under the 'Green Credit Programme' (GCP) for a period of two years.

The detailed advertisement with the format and necessary documents required for application are available on ICFRE website (www.icfre.gov.in/recruitment). The last date of receipt of applications is 21 days from the date of publication of the advertisement. Applications should be sent to the Deputy Conservator of Forests (Green Credit Cell), Room No. 24, Indian Council for Forestry Research and Education (Hq), P.O. New Forest Dehradun -248006.

Deputy Conservator of Forests (Green Credit Cell), ICFRE



King George's Medical University, UP, Lucknow

Shahmeena Road, Chowk, Lucknow-226003
Hospital Revolving Fund
(E-mail: kgmuhrtender2021@gmail.com)

E-Tender Notice

KGMU HRF invites on-line E-Tenders for Implant and its accessories of various deptt. i.e. Notice No.76/KGMU/HRF/2024 (Orthopaedics /Sports Medicine /Paediatric orthopaedics), 77/KGMU/HRF/2024 (Intra Oral & Maxillofacial Implant materials), 78/KGMU/HRF/2024 (Ophthalmic implants), 79/KGMU/HRF/2024 (C.T.V.S & E.N.T Implants), 80/KGMU /HRF/2024 (Spine & Neuro Surgical Implants), 81/KGMU/HRF/2024 (Entire Range of Suture Material), dated 30.12.2024 in two bid System (1) Technical Bid & (2) Price Bid for executing a Rate contract for a period of two years.

The detailed terms and condition of the NIT is available in the E-Bid document uploaded on E-tender portal www.etender.up.nic.in and website of the University www.kgmuh.org w.e.f - 31.12.2024 vide above E-tender Notice No.

Reputed Genuine Manufacturer/Importer company are requested to submit their bid online for each respective tender as per details given along with that tender.

The offer will be accepted online only on e-tender portal with terms and conditions as mentioned in tender document on or before-29.01.2025 till 05.00 P.M.

The Vice-Chancellor reserves the right to accept or reject any offer partially or fully without assigning any reason.

Chairman
K.G.M.U, H.R.F



JAMMU & KASHMIR POLICE.

Police station Cyber Crime Investigation Centre for Excellence, 3rd Floor, Crime Branch, Channi Ramma, Jammu, J&K.

Email id : pscice.jmu@jkpolice.gov.in Ph. no. 9103387076

LOOK OUT NOTICE

The public in general is hereby informed through medium of this LOOK OUT NOTICE that the present whereabouts of the person whose photograph is pasted above is required for the purpose of investigation in case FIR No 03/2022 U/S 420/120-B IPC r/w 66-D IT Act P/S CICE Jammu registered at Police Station, CICE, Crime Branch, Jammu. His alleged name and particulars are as under :-

Name	: Manoj Kumar
Parentage	: Sukhdev Prasad Singh
Address	: R/O C-29 Street No. 4 Durga Mandir Wali Gali Ankur Enclave Karawal Nagar Near DLF New-Delhi
Religion	: Hindu.
Age	: 37 years (Approx.)
Sex	: Male.
Height	: ?
Colour	: ?
Face Appearance	: Oval -shape face

Anybody having any information about the whereabouts of above mentioned person may please contact the office of Sr. Superintendent of Police CICE, Crime Branch Jammu personally or may share the information on Email ID pscice.jmu@jkpolice.gov.in or Mobile No. 9103387076 or Mobile No. 8492945872 of Investigating Officer.

Sr. Superintendent of Police
CICE, Crime Branch, Jammu.

DIP No./DIP/J-8741/24/30/12/2024



GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

O/o The Superintending Engineer (Projects-WZ), GHMC, Hyderabad

The EPC work tenders invited vide Tender Notice No.09/SE (P-WZ)/GHMC/2024-25 Dated: 21-12-2024, (Item No's. 1, 2 & 3) held cancelled. Address of the officer concerned Sri. G. Sree Lakshmi, SE(P-WZ) Superintending Engineer (Projects-WZ), GHMC, Superintending Engineer (Projects-WZ), Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Tank Bund Road, Hyderabad. Further details can be seen at 'e Procurement' <https://www.tender.eprocurement.gov.in>.

R.O.No.-8521-PPIC/ADVT/1/2024-25 Sd/-, Superintending Engineer (Projects-WZ) GHMC



NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice
Sr. DEE/TRD/Agra for & on behalf of President of India invites "Open Tender" through on-line only (e-Tendering) for the following work:
Tender No. : AGCTRD/202428 Approximate Cost : Rs. 16207558/-
Name of work : Replacement of Contact wire having Brazing Joint by joint less contact wire over MTJ-PWL & IDH-TD Sections of Agra Division (Phase I)
Earnest Money : Rs. 228000/- Period of completion : Twelve months
1. For full details & submission of the bid please see the Indian Railway website www.irps.gov.in. 2. Tender can only be submitted through web portal www.irps.gov.in up to 11:00 Hrs. on date 29.01.2025. 2192/24 (C)
@ CPONCR @ North central railways @ cponcronly @ CPONCR @ www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in



OFFICE OF ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER (RGLC-P)

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT JODHPUR
Ph No. 0291-2651760 EMAIL - ace.rglc.idh.phed@rajasthan.gov.in
No. ACE/RGLC-PRO/JDH/ 2024-25/ 351-385 Dated- 24/12/2024
Notice Inviting Bid (NIB No 01 /2024-25)
Work : Execution of works related to "Water supply project for providing Raw water to MIC Rohat from RGLC" including 10-year O&M after one year Defect liability period invited from interested bidders up to 27/01/2025 and 06.00 PM. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (<http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in>). <http://sppp.raj.nic.in> of the state and PHED department website.
UBN No- PHE2425WL0B07552 Sd/-
DIPR/C/13705/2024 ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER PHED RGLC PROJECT JODHPUR



TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

होमी भाभा रोड, कुलाबा, मुंबई - 400005 / Homi Bhabha Road, Colaba, Mumbai 400005
भारत सरकार के परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग की स्थापना संस्था एवं समविधिविद्यालय
An Autonomous Institution of the Department of Atomic Energy of Government of India and a Deemed to be University
विज्ञान सं. 2025/1/ Advertisement No. 2025/1
Invites attention to the availability of faculty positions in the Institute. For details, please visit the website <http://www.tifr.res.in/positions>.
कुलसचिव, टीआईएफआर / Registrar, TIFR



BRIDCUL (ब्रिडकुल)

विज्ञ, रोपे, दाल एण्ड अवर इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर डेवलपमेंट कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ उत्तराखण्ड लिमिटेड
(उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का उपक्रम) पूर्व में उत्तराखण्ड राज्य अर्थव्यवस्था विकास निगम लिमिटेड
प्रधान कार्यालय: अर्थव्यवस्था भवन, 583-ठ, राजकीय आईटीडीआई
बिरोजानपुर के सामने, माजरा, सहायनपुर रोड, देहरादून - 248001
CIN No - U45203UR2008SGC032591 टेलीफोन - 0135-2522941, ई-मेल - bridcul@gmail.com
Ref : - 2401 / BRIDCUL - 11(5)/HR/24 Date: 31/12 /2024
Advertisement for Appointment
BRIDCUL is an undertaking of Government of Uttarakhand with a mandate for infrastructure development viz. construction of road, bridge, building, ropeway and other infrastructure projects within and outside the State. The previous advertisement published by the BRIDCUL wide Letter No. 1079/BRIDCUL-11(5)/HR/24 Dated 10.07.2024 and Letter No. 2002/BRIDCUL-11(5)/HR/24 Dated 13.11.2024 for the post of Project Manager (01 Post) through deputation. Candidates who had applied earlier against our previous advertisements need not required to apply again, eligible candidates will be called for interview against the advertisements.
As per approval given by Government of Uttarakhand, BRIDCUL seeks to induct professionals for the following posts on Deputation basis:-

S.No	Name of Post	Group	No. of Posts
1	Project Manager	B	03

Qualification, experience, pay scale, age limit, format for application and other details concerning the advertisement may be seen/downloaded from our website <http://www.bridcul.com> (under the title "Recruitments"). The last date for receiving application is 15.01.2025 upto 1700Hrs. Changes if any, will be uploaded on our website.

General Manager (HR), BRIDCUL



POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD.

(A Govt. of Uttarakhand Enterprise)
"Vidyut Bhawan" Near ISBT, Crossing, Saharanpur Road, Majra, Dehradun-248002
Corporate ID U40101UR2004SGC028675, Tel. No. 0135-2642711

E-TENDER CORRIGENDUM-2

The last date of submission of the E-Tender for "Procurement of 125 MVAR Reactor, Online DGA, ODS, NIPPS along with its accessories at 400 KV Sub-station Kashipur" against Tender Specification no. PTCUL/E-Tender/C&P-II/SS-12/2024-25 is hereby extended upto 20.01.2025 15:30 Hrs. For more details please visit e-tender website www.uttarakhandtenders.gov.in (tender id no. 2024_PTCU4_77558_1) and for e-tender corrigendum notice our website www.ptcul.org. All other terms and conditions shall remain same.
For any assistance on E-Tendering, please contact +91-8899890000.
RO No. 2360/HQPU/PTCUL Dated: 30.12.2024 Superintending Engineer (C&P-II)
"Save Electricity in the Interest of Nation"



IDBI BANK

CIN : L65190MH2004GOI148838

IDBI BANK LIMITED

Central Processing Unit, Annex Building,
Plot No. 39/40/41, Sector 11, CBD Belapur,
Navi Mumbai-400614

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Appointment of Service Provider for Filing Form 60, TDS Reconciliation, Remittance, Filing and allied activities including consultancy for TDS on Interest from Term Deposit and Cash Withdrawal for IDBI Bank Ltd.
Tender ref:- IDBI BANK/CPU-CTDS/2025-01, DATED 01 Jan, 2025.
Bids are invited for above mentioned services. Bids can be submitted till 24/01/2025 by 3:00 PM. For further details & formats (complete RFP Document) please visit the Bank's web site www.idbibank.in under Notices & Tenders section.
Sd/
Deputy General Manager
CTDS Cell-CPU
IDBI Bank Ltd, Mumbai



KARNATAKA STATE MEDICAL SUPPLIES CORPORATION LIMITED

No.1, Dr. Siddaiah Puranik Road, KHB Colony, Magadi Road, Bengaluru - 560079, Phone: +91-80-29619801 Email: md.ksmscl@gmail.com
No: HFV/KSMSCL/EQPT/KSAPS/BSE/TND/09/2024-25 Dated: 30.12.2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Ref: 1. Tender Notification No: HFV/KSMSCL/EQPT/KSAPS/BSE/TND/09/2024-25, Dated: 30.12.2024 (IND-0185).
Nationwide Tender is invited through e-Tendering system under KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for the following tender:
TENDER FOR SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF BLOOD STORAGE EQUIPMENTS FOR FIVE BLOOD STORAGE CENTRE UNDER KARNATAKA STATE AIDS PREVENTION SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR 2024-25
Details regarding EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information are available in the Tender Document, which can be downloaded from the website <https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in> from 30.12.2024. The eligible tenderers shall submit their e-tenders under kpp portal for above mentioned tenders. Further information if any may be obtained from this office.
Sd/- Managing Director,
KSMSCL, Bengaluru.
DIPR/CP/AAPLUR04020/24-25



ERCP Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project Corporation Limited

Singhal, Jaipur, J.N. Marg, Jaipur 302017 Tel: 0141-2709657 Email: erpcpc@gmail.com
CIN U74140RJ2022SGC02942 PAN AANCB 1780H TAN 99020005
No. 2565 Date: 30.12.2024

NIB No.:- ERCPCL/14/2024-25

Corrigendum - 02

Corrigendum issued for the NIB is as follows:-

S. No.	Reference / Clause No. / Page Number Of Notice Inviting Bid	Existing	Now to be read as
1.	Name of Work and Site (Pg-1, S.No.1)	Construction of feeder system from Khura Chainpura to Jaisamand Alwar, including all components with its O&M for a period of 20 years on Hybrid Annuity Model (ERCP-12-09-TF-7A)	Construction of feeder system from Khura Chainpura to Jaisamand Alwar, including all components with its O&M for a period of 20 years on Hybrid Annuity Model (ERCP-09-TF-7A)
2.	Estimated Cost of Work (INR in Crore) (Pg-1, S.No.1)	4230	3446

These changes/ amendments may be seen on procurement portal <http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in> & <http://www.sppp.raj.nic.in> of the state.
NIB Code : ERP2425A0023
UBN No : ERP2425WL0B00020
Raj. Samwad/C24/9724 Managing Director, ERCPCL, Jaipur



बिहार अभियंत्रण विश्वविद्यालय, पटना
(छद्म कला, परीक्षा ब्लॉक, एनकेन्यू-परिसर, मीठापुर, पटना-800001)
Bihar Engineering University, Patna
(6th Floor, Examination Block, AKU Campus, Mithapur, Patna-800001)



Ph.D ADMISSION NOTICE

Bihar Engineering University, Patna (BEU, Patna) invites application for admission to Ph.D Programme through University Admission Test and/or Interview for the **Even Semester (January-June 2025)** of the Academic Session 2024-25 under Full-Time/Part-Time Ph.D Programme.

The last date to submit online application form is **17.01.2025**. For the detailed information please visit the website of the University <http://beu-bih.ac.in>

PR. No.16089 (Sci. & Tech.) 2024-25

Registrar

नशी से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार।



सामान्य प्रशासन विभाग
प्रेस विज्ञप्ति

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि बिहार लोक सेवा आयोग, पटना के पत्रांक-8/वि0प्र0-02-10/2022 (खण्ड-I) (34) लो0सोआ0/गो0 दिनांक 24.12.2024 द्वारा वि0सो-23/2023 के अन्तर्गत 32वीं बिहार न्यायिक सेवा प्रतियोगिता परीक्षा के आधार पर अर्सेनिक न्यायाधीश (कनीय कोर्ट) के पद पर नियुक्ति हेतु अनुशसित सफल अभ्यर्थियों की शैक्षणिक योग्यता एवं अन्य प्रमाण पत्रों की जाँच दिनांक 08.01.2025 को प्रथम पाली 10.00 बजे पूर्वाह्न से 01.00 बजे अपराह्न तक एवं द्वितीय पाली 02.00 बजे अपराह्न से 06.00 बजे तक सिचाई भवन परिसर स्थित अधिवेशन भवन, मुख्य सभागार, पटना में निर्धारित की जायेगी। अनुशसित अभ्यर्थियों के अनुक्रमों प्रथम एवं द्वितीय पाली के अनुरूप विभागीय वेबसाइट-www.gad.bih.nic.in पर उपलब्ध है। अनुशसित अभ्यर्थी प्रमाण पत्रों की जाँच हेतु वीछित अभिलेख, जिसकी सूची वेबसाइट पर उपलब्ध है, के साथ उपस्थित होंगे।

उक्त सूचना www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar पर भी देखी जा सकती है।

(गुफ़रान अहमद)
सरकार के अपर सचिव

PR. No.15933 (GAD) 2024-25

नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।



Govt. of Bihar
Directorate of Aviation
(Cabinet Secretariat Department)
Patna Airport, Patna – 800014

TEL. No:- 0612-2225659, 2224423 Fax 0612 2224614 e-mail-cadbihaar@bihar.gov.in
Letter. No: DA(Misc.)-05-09/2024- 1272

Request for proposal

“EMPALEMENT OF NON-SCHEDULED OPERATORS/ CHARTER SERVICE PROVIDERS”

Directorate of Aviation, Cabinet Secretariat Department, Govt. of Bihar desires to empanel Non-Scheduled Operators/ Charter Service Providers of twin engine jet airplanes to meet the requirements of the State on need basis for one year.

For detail scope of work and other terms and conditions, please refer the RFP document available at <http://state.bihar.gov.in/csd>

- Last Date for Submission of Proposals **21.01.2025 till 05:00 PM.**
- Date of Opening of Technical & Financial Proposals **22.01.2025 at 03:00 PM.**

This information is available on state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar also

PR- 15949 (C S D) 2024-25 **Administrative Officer**
नरो की मार, बर्बाद करे सुखी परिवार। **Directorate of Aviation**



बिहार सरकार

कार्यालय, कार्यपालक अभियंता लघु सिचाई प्रमण्डल औरंगाबाद

पत्रांक-2533

शुद्धि पत्र (Corregendum Letter)

इस कार्यालय द्वारा आमंत्रण सूचना संख्या-05/2024-25 जिसका PRNO-013292 (MWRD)/2024-25 है को अपरिहार्य कारणवश संशोधन करते हुए इसका अवधि विस्तार किया जाता है जो निम्न प्रकार है:-

क्र० सं०	विवरण	पूर्व में निर्धारित तिथि एवं समय	संशोधित तिथि एवं समय
1	परिपत्र विषय प्राप्त करने की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 27.12.2024 से दिनांक 03.01.2025 के अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक सिर्फ वेबसाइट WWW.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर	दिनांक 03.01.2025 से दिनांक 09.01.2025 के अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक सिर्फ वेबसाइट WWW.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर
2	ग्री-बीड मीटिंग का स्थान, तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 31.12.2024 को पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे से अपराह्न 3:00 बजे तक मुख्य अभियंता, लघु जल संसाधन विभाग, पटना का कार्यालय, जल भवन सभागार, राईखि रोड, शेखपुरा, पटना। (जिसमें भाग लेना अनिवार्य है)	दिनांक 07.01.2025 को पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे से अपराह्न 3:00 बजे तक मुख्य अभियंता, लघु जल संसाधन विभाग, पटना का कार्यालय, जल भवन सभागार, राईखि रोड, शेखपुरा, पटना। (जिसमें भाग लेना अनिवार्य है)
3	निविदा अपलोड करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 04.01.2025 के अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक सिर्फ वेबसाइट WWW.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर	दिनांक 10.01.2025 के अपराह्न 05:00 बजे तक सिर्फ वेबसाइट WWW.eproc2.bihar.gov.in पर
4	तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	दिनांक 07.01.2025 के पूर्वाह्न 10:00 बजे से संबंधित प्रमंडलीय कार्यालय में	दिनांक 11.01.2025 के पूर्वाह्न 10:00 बजे से संबंधित प्रमंडलीय कार्यालय में
5	तकनीकी निविदाओं का मूल्यांकन	दिनांक 13.01.2025 से लगातार	दिनांक 20.01.2025 से लगातार

निविदा में प्रकाशित अन्य नियम एवं शर्त पूर्वतः रहेगी।

PR. No. 015793 (MWRD) 2024-25

विस्तृत जानकारी www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar से प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

स्वतः की आवश्यकता पड़ने पर लाईसेंस प्राप्त ब्लड बैंक से ही रक्त प्राप्त करें।



Office of the Superintending Engineer
Bulandshahr Circle, P.W.D., Bulandshahr

No-8958 /96M(iv)-BSR Circle/2024-25 Dated-16.12.2024

E-Procurement Inviting Tender

On behalf of Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Superintending Engineer Bulandshahr Circle, U.P.P.W.D., Bulandshahr invites following the item rate bid online through <http://etender.up.nic.in> from the eligible and approved Contractors registered with P.W.D. class as per column no. 10 below Road work Category as applied from Date 03.01.2025 to 10.01.2025 upto 12:00 Noon as per the prescribed SBD of Govt. of U.P. The technical bids will be opened online on dated 10.01.2025 at 12:30 P.M. If the office happens to be closed on the date of opening of the bids as specified, the bids will be opened online on the next working day, at the same time any validity of bid will be considered from the original date. The date and time of opening of the financial bid shall be notified on the website.

Sl. No	Name of Work	Esti-mated cost (Rs. in Lakh)	5 Year Maint enance cost (Rs. in Lac)	Bid Secu rity (Rs. in Lac)	Time of Com- pletion work including rainy season	Maint enance Period	Tender Docu ment Fee including GST (in Rs.)	Address of Executive Engineer including P.W.D., G.S.T., Gautam budhnagar	Address of Superin tending Engineer Buland P.W.D., Bulandshahr	Address of Chief Engineer Meerut Zone, P.W.D., Meerut	Cate gory
1	जगद गौतमबुधनगर में विनिय 2024-25 में शाह-रव-महन्दीपुर भौले का मौर महन्दीपुर खार (चण्डीगढ़) अन्त किला सा के क्रिओपी 1 से 10(500) एवं सुदुर्गकरण का कार्य।	1670.00	42.00	30.00	12 Months	5 Years	Tender Cost Rs.2004 +18% P.W.D., G.S.T., 414.00= 2714.00	Executive Engineer Provincial Division, Bulandshahr P.W.D., Gautam budhnagar	Superin tending Engineer Buland P.W.D., Bulandshahr	Chief Engineer Meerut Zone, P.W.D., Meerut	A

1. Time allowed for completion of Whole work is mention in col. No. 6 with including rainy season.

2. The Tender Document fee must be deposited through Internet Banking only.

3. All registered contractors have to upload Turnover certified by C.A. of last 5 years and details of maximum cost of work satisfactorily completed in last 5 years on Chanakya Software before submission of tender.

Details of e-tender uploaded on <http://etender.up.nic.in> shall also be uploaded on UP PWD Chanakya software, before last date & time of submission of bid.

4. Terms & other conditions related to bid are available on <http://etender.up.nic.in>

5. In PWD technical evaluation of tenders is to be done by Prahar Software URL for Prahar is <http://wms.uppwd.gov.in/Prahar/>.

As per GO No 17/2024/मि-113/23-01-2024-23-1099/113/2023 Lok Nirman Anubhag-1 Lucknow Dt-16-01-2024, Maintenance Period of the above works will be of 5 years and Maintenance Period will start from the actual date of completion of the work.

(Kanchan Singh)
Executive Engineer
P.D., PWD,
Gautambudhnagar

UPID 225162 dt 28.12.2024,
www.upgov.nic.in

(Maneesh Verma)
Superintending Engineer
Bulandshahr circle, PWD
Bulandshahr



GUJARAT URJA VIKAS NIGAM LIMITED
CIN U40109GJ2004SGC045195
ISO 9001:2015 Certified Company
Sardar Patel Vidyut Bhavan, Racecourse, Vadodara 390007
PBX: (0265) 2310582-86, www.guvnl.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Limited (GUVNL) a Govt. of Gujarat Undertaking hereby invites e-tender for purchase of 600-800 MW RTC power and 500 MW in Peak hours for the period from **01.03.2025 to 30.06.2025** as per Ministry of Power (MoP), Govt. of India Guidelines dated **30.03.2016** read with amendment to the guideline notified on **21.02.2022**. RFP is available at www.mstcecommerce.com from **31.12.2024**. Bid has to be submitted online through DEEP Portal of MoP. All terms and conditions shall be as per RFP.

Date: 31st December 2024 **Chief Finance Manager (Power Trading)**

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL OF INDIA
9, DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAYA MARG, NEW DELHI – 110 002
Empanelment of Chartered Accountant firms/LLPs for the year 2025-2026

Online Applications are invited from Chartered Accountant firms/LLPs who desire to be empanelled with the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year 2025-2026 for considering for appointment as auditors of Companies as per Sections 139(5) and 139(7) of the Companies Act 2013 and of Statutory Corporations/Autonomous Bodies as per the provisions of their respective Acts.

Online application form along with detailed instructions in this regard will be available on the website www.cag.gov.in from 07 January 2025 to 17 February 2025.

The applicant firms/LLPs will have to fill/update the data showing the status of their firm as on 01 January 2025. After filling/updating the data, the firms/LLPs will be required to generate online acknowledgement letter for the year. If the firms/LLPs fail to generate online acknowledgment letter, their application would not be considered for empanelment. The firms/LLPs will be required to submit a print out of the acknowledgement letter generated online and also hard copies of the documents in support of their online application to this office by 28 February 2025.

Sd/-
CBC-51101/11/0007/2425 **Sr. Administrative Officer/CA-V**



Office Of The Superintending Engineer,
9th Circle Public Work Department, Dehradun
Office Of The Superintending Engineer, 9th Circle PWD, Dehradun Uttarakhand
Website- <http://pwd.uk.gov.in> E-Mail: sepwdddun09@gmail.com

Letter No. 9694/1C-9/2024 Dated: 30/12/2024

NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
e-tender Notice (Short term)

The Superintending Engineer 9th Circle, Public Works Department, Dehradun on behalf of "Governor of Uttarakhand" invites short term tender in two bid system for the following work. Information regarding tender shall be available on <https://www.uktenders.gov.in> from date **04.01.2025**.

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Earnest Money (Rs. in Lacs)	Validity of Tender (In days)	Cost of Tender Document (In Rs.)	Period of Completion (In Month)	Contractor Category of Registration
1	Under State Disaster Relief Fund (SDRF). Supply & Providing of different type Bailey Bridge at Rishikesh and Haldwani stores for various Division of PWD Uttarakhand for damaged and washout bridges during monsoon season in the financial Year 2024-25.	45.00	120	5000.00 + 18% G.S.T.	03	Manufacture & Supplier of Bailey Bridge under Army / Railway / State / Center Govt./ Public Sector Undertaking.

Government of Maharashtra
Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection Department
Office of Collector Gadchiroli (Supply Branch)
E-Short Tender Notice No. 01/2024

Transportation of Paddy/CMR and Coarse-grain under MSP from various PPCs to Rice Mills and Rice Mills to Godowns for period of 2 years(2024-25 And 2025-26) in Gadchiroli District

e-mail - dsogadchiroli@gmail.com Phone No. 07132/222007/299016

No. Desk-11/Supply/A.K.-16/WS-241/2024/ Date:-28/12/2024

Collector Gadchiroli do hereby inviting online Tender from authorized Transporter for Transportation of Paddy/CMR and Coarse-grain under Minimum Support Price from various Paddy Procurement Centre to Rice Mills and rice mills to Godowns for the period of 2 years/ 4 seasons in Gadchiroli District. Tender documents can be submitted online till 03.00 hrs on 10th January 2025, Tender form & the details of tender available on the following websites <http://www.mahatenders.gov.in> and www.mahafood.gov.in.

Sl. No.	Scope of Work	Tender Value	Period of Work
1	Transportation of Paddy/CMR and Coarse-grain under MSP from various PPCs to Rice Mills and Rice Mills to Godowns in Gadchiroli District	21.87 Crore	2 Year (4 Seasons)

Pre-Bid Conference to held on 06th January 2025 on 03:00 pm at Collector Office, (Supply), Gadchiroli with willing contractors.

Sd/-
DGIPR/2024-2025/5320 **Collector, Gadchiroli**



THE HUTTI GOLD MINES COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Hutti - 584 115, Raichur Dist., Karnataka State. Tele: (08537) 275463, 276339
e-Mail: material276339@gmail.com Website: www.huttigold.karnataka.gov.in

Tender Notification No. 20/24-25, Dt: 31.12.2024 (Through KPP Portal only)

Tender is invited by "The Senior Manager (Materials)" for the procurement of following tenders as detailed below.

Sl. No.	Description	EMD in Rs.
1	Design, Engineering, Manufacture, Supply, Erection, including civil works, testing and commissioning of dust extraction system on turnkey bases in Secondary and Tertiary crusher plant. HGML/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT39/CALL-3.	1,50,000/-
2	Compressive operation, maintenance and security contract (CAOMSC) for 3 Nos. of 1.5 MW and 1 No. of 2.1 MW WTGs of Suzlon make for a period of three years. HGML/2024-25/SE0042	6,63,000/-
3	Compressive operation, maintenance and security contract for its 4.8 MW (0.6 MW X 8 Nos.) WTG of Vestas RRB make. HGML/2024-25/SE0043	4,30,000/-
4	Supply of Electric LHD 2.0CU.M Bucket Capacity. HGML/2024-25/IND0260.	3,50,000/-
5	Manufacturing, testing, supply and commissioning of LPDT at Hutti Gold Mine. HGML/2023-24/IND0124/CALL-4.	13,81,000/-
6	Tender For providing 30 Ex-Servicemen / Paramilitary (12 Security Gunmen and 18 Security Guards) Security Guards. HGML/2024-25/SE0036.	2,49,000/-
7	Supply of Manpower for Hutti Gold Mines. HGML/2024-25/SE0041	1,73,000/-

Calendar of events: 1) Pre-Bid Meetings (Zoom): **09.01.2025 for Sl.no.1 at 10.30 am, Sl.no.2 at 11.00 am, Sl.no.3 at 11.30 am, Sl.no.4 at 12.00 pm, Sl.no.5 at 12.30 pm, Sl.no.6 at 3.00 pm, and Sl.no.7 at 3.30 pm. 2)** Last date for receipt of tender: **29.01.2025 at 4.00 P.M**
3) Opening of Technical Bid on: **01.02.2025 at 10.00 A.M**

For further details interested bidders are advised to login to website <https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in> or contact the office of undersigned during working hours. For participating in the above tender bidder needs to be registered in KPP portal.

Sd/- Senior Manager (Materials)

“LEADING GOLD PRODUCER IN INDIA”

कार्यालय महर्षि वशिष्ठ स्वशासी राज्य चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय
बस्ती, उ०प्र०

E Mail ID-gmcbasti2019@gmail.com पता-स्वशासी राज्य चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, बस्ती, रामपुरबस्ती।
Web Site-www.asmcbasti.edu.in दिनांक: 31 दिसम्बर, 2024

पत्रांक: मे०का०बस्ती/स्था०/2024-25/5206

सूचना

महर्षि वशिष्ठ स्वशासी राज्य चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय बस्ती के पत्र सं०-मे०का० बस्ती/2024-25/4880 दिनांक-09.12.2024 के द्वारा विभिन्न विभागों में आचार्य, सह आचार्य एवं सहायक आचार्य के पदों पर सेवायोजन विज्ञप्ति जारी की गयी थी। जिसमें आवेदन भरने हेतु अंतिम तिथि दिनांक 31.12.2024 थी जिसको विस्तारित करते हुए अंतिम तिथि दिनांक-15.01.2025 को जती है।

प्रधानाचार्य,
महर्षि वशिष्ठ स्वशासी राज्य चिकित्सा महाविद्यालय, बस्ती।

RAJ BHAVAN, LUCKNOW

NOTICE INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHANCELLOR FOR KHWAJA MOINUDDIN CHISHTI LANGUAGE UNIVERSITY, LUCKNOW (U.P.)

Advt. No. E-9668/2024 Dated : December 30, 2024

It is proposed to appoint the Vice-Chancellor for Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Language University, Lucknow (U.P.), established under the Uttar Pradesh State Universities Act, 1973 (No. 10 of 1973) by the Chancellor, out of a panel to be recommended by a Committee appointed in terms of Section- 12 of the said Act.

The Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a term of 03 years from the date on which he/she enters upon his/her office or till he/she attains the age of 68 years whichever is earlier. Only such person shall be eligible for appointment to the office of Vice Chancellor who has not attained the age of 65 years.

As the Vice Chancellor is the Principal Executive and Academic Officer of the University, he/she should have highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment. He/She is required to have sound administrative acumen besides being a distinguished person in the field of Education.

The newly appointed Vice Chancellor can take charge through this advertisement only after the tenure of the present Vice Chancellor appointed and working in the University is completed and the said advertised post becomes vacant.

The applicant for the post of Vice-Chancellor may send his/her application Online only in prescribed format available on the website "www.upgovernor.gov.in" on or before 27.01.2025 (Monday).

Any application received after the prescribed date shall not be considered.

Additional Chief Secretary to the Governor,
UPID-225307/31.12.2024 www.upgov.nic.in **Uttar Pradesh.**



GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board
FC-18, INSTITUTIONAL AREA, KARKARDOOMA, DELHI-110092
<https://dsssonline.nic.in>

No. F.1 (384)/P&P/ DSSSB/2024/Advt./7352 Dated: 30/12/2024

VACANCY NOTICE / ADVERTISEMENT No. 10/2024
COMBINED EXAMINATION, 2024 FOR THE POST OF POST GRADUATE TEACHER

The opening date and closing date for receipt of online applications are as below :-
Opening Date of Application: 16/01/2025 (16th January, 2025) (From 12:00 Noon)
Closing Date of Application: 14/02/2025 (14th February, 2025) (Till 11:59 PM)

Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board (DSSSB) invites online applications from eligible candidates for recruitment to the post of **Post Graduate Teacher** against vacancies in respect of under mentioned Departments of Govt. of NCT of Delhi / Autonomous / Local bodies as per detail given below :-


POST GRADUATE TEACHER													
												Vacancies*	
S.No.	Post Code	Name of post	Name of Department	Pay Level	UR	OBC	SC	ST	EWS	Total	PwBD (Incl.)		
1		PGT (Hindi) Male	Directorate of Education	8	51	4	6	2	7	70	5		
2	824/24	PGT (Hindi) Female	Directorate of Education	8	7	2	4	5	3	21	0		
3		PGT (Hindi)	New Delhi Municipal Council	8	NO REQUISITION RECEIVED TILL DATE								
1		PGT (Maths) Male	Directorate of Education	8	10	7	2	0	2	21	0		
2	825/24	PGT (Maths) Female	Directorate of Education	8	1	4	1	4	0	10	0		
3		PGT (Maths)	New Delhi Municipal Council	8	NO REQUISITION RECEIVED TILL DATE								
1		PGT (Physics) Male	Directorate of Education	8	1	2	0	0	0	3	0		
2	826/24	PGT (Physics) Female	Directorate of Education	8	1	1	0	0	0	2	0		
3		PGT (Physics)	New Delhi Municipal Council	8	NO REQUISITION RECEIVED TILL DATE								
1		PGT (Chemistry) Male	Directorate of Education	8	1	3	0	0	0	4	0		
2	827/24	PGT (Chemistry) Female	Directorate of Education	8	2	0	1	0	0	3	0		
3		PGT (Chemistry)	New Delhi Municipal Council	8	NO REQUISITION RECEIVED TILL DATE								
1		PGT (Biology) Male	Directorate of Education	8	0	1	0	0	0	1	0		
2	828/24	PGT (Biology) Female	Directorate of Education	8	4	6	2	0	0	12	0		
3		PGT (Biology)	New Delhi Municipal Council	8	NO REQUISITION RECEIVED TILL DATE								
1		PGT (Economics) Male	Directorate of Education	8	31	21	2	0	6	60	1		
2	829/24	PGT (Economics) Female	Directorate of Education	8	7	13	0	2	0	22	4		
3		PGT (Economics)	New Delhi Municipal Council	8	NO REQUISITION RECEIVED TILL DATE								
1		PGT (Commerce) Male	Directorate of Education	8	14	14	1	0	3	32	1		
2	830/24	PGT (Commerce) Female	Directorate of Education	8	2	1	0	0	2	5	0		
3		PGT (Commerce)	New Delhi Municipal Council	8	NO REQUISITION RECEIVED TILL DATE								
1		PGT (History) Male	Directorate of Education	8	28	10	6	2	4	50	1		
2	831/24	PGT (History) Female	Directorate of Education	8	2	4	1	1	3	11	1		
3		PGT (History)	New Delhi Municipal Council	8	NO REQUISITION RECEIVED TILL DATE								
1		PGT (Geography) Male	Directorate of Education	8	14	1	2	2	2	21	1		
2	832/24	PGT (Geography) Female	Directorate of Education	8	1	0	0	0	0	1	1		
3		PGT (Geography)	New Delhi Municipal Council	8	NO REQUISITION RECEIVED TILL DATE								
1		PGT (Pol Science) Male	Directorate of Education	8	41	7	6	0	5	59	2		
2	833/24	PGT (Pol Science) Female	Directorate of Education	8	11	3	3	0	2	19	3		
3		PGT (Political Science)	New Delhi Municipal Council	8	NO REQUISITION RECEIVED TILL DATE								
1		PGT (Sociology) Male	Directorate of Education	8	2	1	0	0	2	5	0		
2	834/24	PGT (Sociology) Female	Directorate of Education	8	NO REQUISITION RECEIVED TILL DATE								
3		PGT (Sociology)	New Delhi Municipal Council	8	NO REQUISITION RECEIVED TILL DATE								
GRAND TOTAL					231	105	37						


**IDBI BANK LIMITED**
Regd. Off. IDBI Tower, WTC Complex,
Non SolarPeak Hour power by TNPDCL from 01.03.2025 to 31.05.2025 and return of
Non SolarPeak Hour power by TNPDCL from 01.07.2025 to 30.09.2025. The offer should
reach the office on or before 13.01.2025 at 13.00 hrs and will be opened at 15:00 hrs on
the same day in the Office of Chief Engineer / Private Power Projects, TNPDCL, 2nd Floor,
MLDC Building, 144, Anna Salai, Chennai - 2.
Specification is available in TANGEDCO Website viz., www.tangedco.gov.in
Sd/-
Chief Engineer/PPP, TNPDCL

**EMPALEMENT OF CONTRACTORS FOR ELECTRICAL
WORKS VIZ., REPLACEMENT/UPGRADATION OF
HT PANEL, TRANSFORMERS AT IDBI TOWER, MUMBAI**
Tender for Empalement of Contractors for Electrical Works viz.,
Replacement / Upgradation of HT Panel, Transformers at IDBI Tower,
Cuffe Parade, Mumbai. For details, please visit Bank's website
www.idbibank.in or contact on 022-66552897 / 66552016. Last date
for submission of tender is January 21, 2025 at 3.00 PM. Any further
Corrigenda in respect of the above shall be posted only on Bank's
website and no separate notification shall be issued in the newspapers.
Sd/-
GM (IND)

**B-812 GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
WORKS DEPARTMENT**
E-mail : ceworldbankprojects@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. CE-Bridges - 12 / 2024-25
1. The Chief Engineer (Bridges), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in
double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Road & Bridge
work as detailed below:
2. Nature of work : Bridge works
3. No. of work : 03 nos.
4. Tender cost : Rs.10,000.00 (on-line)
5. Class of Contractor : A / Special Class Contractor
6. Available of bid document in the website : From 10.00 AM of 03.01.2025 to 5.00 PM of 21.01.2025
7. Date of opening of Bid : Dt. 22.01.2025 at 11.30 AM
8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website
: <https://tenderodisha.gov.in>. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen
in the said website.
Sd/-
Chief Engineer, Bridges
Odisha, Bhubaneswar
OIPR-34174/11/0026/24-25

**NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITING TENDER**
Name of Work and its location : 30-Elect-58-T-2024-25-E3
Electrical work in connection with Repair of defective solar
panel, solar water heater (SWH), solar pumps and stand-
alone solar street light and CAMC of above plant over Delhi Division.
Approx. cost of the works in Rs. 207.08 lacs
Address of the office : Sr. Divl Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi.
Earnest Money : Rs. 253600.00
Date & time of submission of tender : 27.01.2025, 12.00 Hrs.
Opening of tender : 27.01.2025, 12.00 Hrs.
Website & notice board : www.ireps.gov.in
Sd. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi
3991/2024
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE


**TAMIL NADU POWER DISTRIBUTION CORPORATION LTD**
TENDER NOTICE :TNPDCL/SWAP/SW-03/2024
TNPDCL invites offers from Utilities / Traders (Bidders) for banking of power on a short
term basis for supply of power to TNPDCL. From 01.03.2025 to 31.05.2025 and return of
Non SolarPeak Hour power by TNPDCL from 01.07.2025 to 30.09.2025. The offer should
reach the office on or before 13.01.2025 at 13.00 hrs and will be opened at 15:00 hrs on
the same day in the Office of Chief Engineer / Private Power Projects, TNPDCL, 2nd Floor,
MLDC Building, 144, Anna Salai, Chennai - 2.
Specification is available in TANGEDCO Website viz., www.tangedco.gov.in
Sd/-
Chief Engineer/PPP, TNPDCL

CAD-2035
**The Odisha State Co-operative Milk
Producers' Federation Limited**
D-2, Sahid Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007
PH NO. : 0674-2546030, 2540273, 2540417, 2540974
Email ID : omfed@yahoo.com
Date: 01.01.2025

E-TENDER NOTICE
OMFED invites sealed tenders from reputed Manufacturers/ Traders/ Suppliers
for supply of DVS Culture for all dairy of Omfed. The e-tender is invited
on-line through 'e'-procurement of Govt. of Odisha web Portal
<https://tendersodisha.gov.in> and <http://www.omfed.com>. The Bid documents
will be available in the website: <https://tendersodisha.gov.in> from 10.00 AM
of 01.01.2025 to 05.00 PM of 20.01.2025. The Technical & Financial Bids shall be
opened at 11.30 A.M. of 21.01.2025 at OMFED Corporate office in the presence
of the interested bidders. The Management reserves the right to accept or reject
any or all the bid document or part thereof without assigning any reason.
Sd/-
Managing Director
OIPR-06063/11/0095/24-25

**PROVISION OF ELEPHANT
INTRUSION DETECTION
SYSTEM**
Tender Notice No.: N_10_HQ_2024-
25; dtd.: 26-12-2024. E-Tender are
invited by the undersigned for the following
work: **Tender No. : N_10_HQ_IDS_2024-
25. Name of work :** Provision of Elephant
Intrusion Detection System for detection
of elephant movements with tracking and
Level crossing alerts to increase Safety
and capacity enhancement over N.F
Railway in Kathiar and Alipurduar
Division. **Advertised Value :**
₹37,42,86,759.66/- **Earnest Money :**
₹20,21,500/- Date & time of closing
of tender at 15:00 hrs. on 24-01-2025. For
complete information with the tender
document of above e-tender will be
available in website www.ireps.gov.in
GM (S&T), Maligaon
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

**NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE**
The Deputy Chief Engineer /Const./Northern Railway Shivaji Bridge, New Delhi, for
and on behalf of the President of India invites open e-tender under Two-Packet system
for the following work:
1 Name of work and location: "Construction of Multi Storied Residential Type-II Quarters (112 Units),
Type-III Quarters (24 Units) & Type-IV Quarters (8 Units), Fire Fighting
Arrangement for 112 nos. Type-II Quarters, 24 nos. Type-III Quarters,
and 08 nos. Type-IV Quarters, circulating area, landscaping horticulture
works, etc. and other miscellaneous allied work in c/w Development of
Coaching and freight Handling Terminal at Bijwasan of Delhi Division of
Northern Railway"
2 Completion period of the work: 12 (Twelve) months
3 Approx. Cost of work: Rs. 4667.07 Lakhs
4 Earnest Money to be deposited: Rs. 24,83,500/-
5 Sale/availability of tender document on Rly. Website: Tender documents will be available on IREPS web
site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in from 07.01.2025 to
21.01.2025 upto 11.30 hrs.
6 Last date/Time of upload of tenders: 21.01.2025 upto 11.30 hours. Tender documents can be
uploaded by the tenderer on IREPS web site w.e.f.
07.01.2025 to 21.01.2025.
7 Date and time of opening of tender: 21.01.2025 at 11.30 hours
No-534-ACS-R-QTRS-BWSN-CSB Dated-31.12.2024
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE
3990/24

**यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण**
प्रथम तल, कॉमर्सियल कॉम्प्लेक्स, पी-2, सैक्टर-ओमेगा-1, ग्रेटर नोएडा, जनसद गौतमबुद्ध नगर, 201308 (उ.प्र.)
Toll Free No. 18001808296 वेबसाइट: www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com

पत्रांक: वाई ई.ए. / भूलेख / 1092 / 2024
सार्वजनिक सूचना
दिनांक: 30.12.2024
यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण द्वारा ग्राम तकीपुर बांगर व चकजलालाबाद के सै-22ई में आने वाले
120 मी. चौड़ी सड़क व सै-24ए के अंतर्गत आने वाली भूमि का सुनियोजित विकास हेतु सम्बन्धित कृषकों द्वारा दी गयी
सहमति की दर रु. 2728/- प्रति वर्ग मी. से प्राधिकरण द्वारा शासनादेश संख्या 314 / 77-3-163एम, दिनांक
23.02.2016 में तय प्रक्रियानुसार निम्नानुसार क्रय किया जाना प्रस्तावित है:-
ग्राम तकीपुर बांगर, रामपुर खादर व कुरैब सैक्टर- 22ई व सै.-24ए के,
भूखण्ड संख्या 1बी, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 पार्क, 45 मी. रोड, 30 मी. रोड के अन्तर्गत
क्रमांक सै./ग्राम खाता खसरा खसरे का खातेदार का नाम तहसील से प्राप्त कारशतकार
का नाम सै. संख्या संख्या कुल क्षेत्रफल रिपोर्ट के आधार पर कारशतकार का हेतु क्षेत्रफल
(हे. में) (हे. में) (हे. में)
1 तकीपुर बांगर 118 243/1 0.2530 जयचन्द पुत्र रामजीलाल नि. नौलीनी शाहपुर, पर. दनकोर, तह. सदर, गौतमबुद्धनगर। 1/2 0.1265
2 तकीपुर बांगर 118 243/1 0.2530 कुसुम पत्नी जयचन्द नि. नौलीनी शाहपुर, गौतमबुद्धनगर। 1/2 0.1265
3 रामपुर खादर 190 37 0.2920 रमेश पुत्र राम सिंह निवासी कादरपुर, गौतमबुद्धनगर। 1/3 0.0973
4 रामपुर खादर 65 47 1.4170 शैलेन्द्र जैसवाल द्वारा कर्ता शैलेन्द्र जैसवाल पुत्र श्री रामलाल जैसवाल निवासी पावेट-4, फेस-1, मरूविहार विल्ला सरोदा खादर पूर्वी दिल्ली में से 0.1686
5 कुरैब 02 400 3.8990 राजेन्द्र सिंह पुत्र श्रवोदान सिंह निवासी ग्राम करौली बांगर, गौतमबुद्धनगर। में से 0.0778
6 तकीपुर बांगर 103 134 0.9800 संजय कुमार पुत्र ईश्वरदास अग्रवाल व रामशंकर अग्रवाल पुत्र ईश्वरदास अग्रवाल निवासी सम्राट पैलेस गड रोड गाँधी आश्रम मेरठ। में से 0.6005
7 तकीपुर बांगर 258 134 0.9800 संजीव मोहन पुत्र ब्रजमोहन गुप्ता निवासी मकान नं. 1390 शिवचौक बागपत रोड मेरठ। में से 0.2741
8 तकीपुर बांगर 177 34/1 0.6200 रमेशचन्द पुत्र रामसहाय नि. ग्राम चकजलालाबाद पर. व तह. जेवर, गौतमबुद्धनगर। सम्पूर्ण भाग 0.6200
9 चकजलालाबाद 28 111 0.6580 श्रीमती कुसुम पत्नी श्रीपाल नि. गुलस्ता कॉलोनी रघुपुरा परगना व तहसील जेवर जिला गौतमबुद्धनगर 1/3 0.2193 1/6 0.1075
10 तकीपुर बांगर 17 78/1 1.6230 सुरेश सिंह पुत्र हीरी सिंह निवासी ग्राम मी. शान्ती नगर कच्चा रघुपुरा परगना व तहसील जेवर जिला गौतमबुद्धनगर। में से 0.4216
उपरोक्त भूमि क्रय किये जाने में यदि किसी व्यक्ति को कोई आपत्ति है तो वह लिखित रूप में 15 दिन के अन्दर
अधोहस्ताक्षरी को अपनी आपत्ति प्रस्तुत कर सकता है।
यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे प्राधिकरण
यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के अधिसूचित क्षेत्र में प्राधिकरण द्वारा स्वीकृत मास्टर प्लान के अतिरिक्त प्लॉटिंग / हाउसिंग / कॉलोनी या किसी भी प्रकार का अन्य निर्माण पूरी तरह से अवैध है। सामान्यजन इस प्रकार की खरीदफरोख्त से पूर्णतः सचेत रहें तथा कॉलोनाइजर के भ्रामक विज्ञापनों से बचे। अधिक जानकारी के लिए प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com देखें।

**Bihar Public Service Commission**
15, Nehru Path (Bailey Road), Patna - 800 001 (BIHAR)

Notice for e-tender
E-Tender response invited from experienced agencies to provide **CCTV SURVEILLANCE SERVICE** during multiple examinations being conducted by BPSC throughout the state. For further details, bid documents with all timelines please visit the website: <https://eproc2.bihar.gov.in> Last date of submission of bid is 30.01.2025 till 3:00 PM
Bidders can participate in this tender only through ONLINE mode.

NIT NO.	CCTV//01/2025
Publication Date and Time	01.01.2025 and 3:00 PM
Last date for submission of written queries for clarifications	14.01.2025 and 6 PM Website: https://bpsc.bih.nic.in , e-mail: bpscpat-bih@nic.in
Date and Time of pre-bid Conference Mode	15.01.2025 and 3:00 PM Offline
Address	BIHAR PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
Non-Refundable Tender Fee/Cost	INR 10,000 only (exclusive of taxes) (Rupees Ten thousand only) payable online through e-Procurement
Last date (deadline) for submission of bids	30.01.2025 3:00 PM
Opening of General & Technical Bids	30.01.2025 4:00 PM

Sd/-
Secretary
Bihar Public Service Commission
Patna

**भारत सरकार Government of India**
भाभा परमाणु अनुसंधान केंद्र
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
मानव संसाधन विकास प्रभाग
Human Resource Development Division

**एचबीएनआई एकमानद विश्वविद्यालय के तत्वावधान में जुलाई-2025 से आरंभ होने वाले भाषाएं के डीडीएफएस कार्यक्रम में प्रवेश के लिए इंजीनियरिंग स्नातकोत्तरों से पीएचडी करने के लिए आवेदन आमंत्रित किए जाते हैं।**
Invites applications from Engineering Postgraduates for admission to DDFS programme of BARC for pursuing PhD, commencing from July-2025 under the aegis of HBNI, a Deemed to be University.
चयन एक द्वि-चरणय प्रक्रिया है: 1. ऑनलाइन कंप्यूटर आधारित परीक्षा (सीबीटी) और स्नातकोत्तर शैक्षणिक रिकॉर्ड के माध्यम से चयन साक्षात्कार के लिए स्क्रीनिंग और 2. चयन साक्षात्कार में प्रदर्शन। **अंतिम चयन केवल चयन साक्षात्कार में योग्यता के आधार पर किया जाएगा।** मैकेनिकल, केमिकल, मेटलर्जिकल/मैटेरियल्स, इलेक्ट्रिकल, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स, कंप्यूटर, इंस्ट्रुमेंटेशन और सिविल इंजीनियरिंग में एम.ई./एम.टेक/समकक्षिणी वाले अभ्यर्थियों से केवल ऑनलाइन आवेदन स्वीकार किए जाएंगे। एमसीए/आईटी डिग्री वाले अभ्यर्थी पात्र नहीं हैं। चयनित छात्रों को एचबीएनआई के चार संघटक संस्थानों (सीआई) में से एक में प्रवेश दिया जाएगा: भाषाएं केंद्र मुंबई, आईजीकार कल्याण, आईपीआर गांधीनगर एवं वीईसीसी कोलकाता। चयनित छात्रों को **80,000/- रुपये प्रति माह की अध्येतावृत्ति और 60,000/- रुपये का वार्षिक आकस्मिक अनुदान दिया जाएगा।** डीडीएफएस अभ्यर्थियों (केवल शोध छात्रों) के लिए सीएचएसएस के तहत चिकित्सा लाभ भी उपलब्ध हैं। पीएचडी कार्यक्रम के दौरान छात्रावास में रहना अनिवार्य है।
Selection is a two-step process: 1. Screening in to Selection Interview through online Computer Based Test (CBT) & post-graduation academic record and 2. Performance in Selection Interview. **Final Selection will be based on Selection Interview merit only.** Only online applications will be accepted from Candidates with M.E/M.Tech/Equivalent Degree in Mechanical, Chemical, Metallurgical / Materials, Electrical, Electronics, Computer, Instrumentation Civil Engineering. Candidates with MCA/IT degree are not eligible. The selected students will be admitted to one of the four Constituent Institutions (CI) of HBNI: BARC Mumbai, IGCAR Kalpakkam, IPR Gandhinagar and VECC Kolkata. The selected students will be awarded **Fellowships of 80,000/- per month and an annual contingency grant of 60,000/- Medical benefits under CHSS are also available for DDFS candidate (research scholar only).** **Hostel accommodation is mandatory during PhD programme.**
अर्हता डिग्री: अभ्यर्थियों को भारत का नागरिक होना चाहिए और एम.ई./एम.टेक/समकक्षिणी के साथ-साथ बी.ई./बी.टेक में न्यूनतम 60 प्रतिशत अंक होने चाहिए। एम.ई./एम.टेक के अंतिम सेमेस्टर के अभ्यर्थी भी आवेदन कर सकते हैं, लेकिन यदि ऐसे अभ्यर्थियों का चयन किया जाता है, तो उन्हें 30 दिसंबर, 2025 तक अपनी मास्टर डिग्री के प्रमाण पत्र और अंक पत्र उपलब्ध कराने होंगे।
Qualifying Degree: Candidates must be Indian citizen and have minimum 60% Marks in M.E/M.Tech/Equivalent Degree as well as B.E./B.Tech. Candidates in the final semester of M.E./M.Tech may also apply but such candidates, if selected, must provide certificates and mark sheets of their Master Degree, by December 30, 2025.
आयु सीमा: 1 अगस्त, 2025 को आयु सीमा 28 वर्ष है अतः सामान्य श्रेणी के अभ्यर्थी का जन्म 1 अगस्त, 1997 को या उसके बाद हुआ होना चाहिए। आयु सीमा में ओबीसी-एनसीएल के लिए तीन वर्ष और एससी/एसटी आवेदकों के लिए पांच वर्ष की छूट है। इंजीनियरिंग महाविद्यालय में संकाय के लिए बिना अध्येतावृत्ति के पीएचडी करने के इच्छुक अभ्यर्थियों के लिए आयु सीमा 1 अगस्त, 2025 को 40 वर्ष है। सभी श्रेणियों के दिव्यांग व्यक्ति (40 प्रतिशत या उससे अधिक दिव्यांग) के लिए 10 वर्ष की अतिरिक्त आयु छूट के लिए पात्र हैं।
Age limit: The age limit is 28 yrs. as on Aug. 1, 2025 and hence should have been born on or after Aug. 1, 1997 for general category. Age limit is relaxable by three years for OBC-NCL and by five years for SC/ST applicants. The age limit for faculty in Engineering Colleges who are desirous of pursuing a PhD without Fellowship is 40 years as on Aug. 1, 2025. Persons with Disability (with 40% or more disability) of all categories are eligible for additional age relaxation of 10 years.
ऑनलाइन आवेदन करने के लिए, <https://www.barcocesexam.com> को देखते रहें।
To Apply Online, visit the website <https://www.barcocesexam.com>

• ऑनलाइन आवेदन पोर्टल आरंभ होने की तिथि: 1 जनवरी, 2025
Launch of Online Application Portal: Jan. 1, 2025*
• स्क्रीनिंग परीक्षा (सीबीटी) 8 एवं 9 मार्च 2025*
Screening Examination (CBT): 8* & 9* March 2025*

• आवेदन की अंतिम तिथि: 26 जनवरी, 2025*
Last Date for Online Application: Jan. 26, 2025*
• चयन साक्षात्कार: जून 2025 Selection
Interviews: June 2025*



• सभी तिथियां संभावित तिथियां हैं और अभ्यर्थियों को अध्ययन सूचना के लिए नियमित रूप से वेबसाइट को देखते रहें।
<https://www.barcocesexam.in> वेबसाइट पर विजिट करने की आवश्यकता है। All dates are tentative and candidates are required to regularly visit the website <https://www.barcocesexam.in> for updates.

**यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण**
प्रथम तल, कॉमर्सियल कॉम्प्लेक्स, ओमेगा-1 (पी-2), ग्रेटर नोएडा
Toll Free No. 18001808296 वेबसाइट : www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com

पत्रांक : YEIDA/GM(P)/2024/991
ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना
दिनांक: 31.12.2024
निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु केन्द्र सरकार / राज्य सरकार / केन्द्र शासित / अर्द्धशासित / सार्वजनिक उपक्रमों के कार्यों का काम से कम बार वर्ष का अनुभव रखने वाले ठेकेदारों/फर्मों से ई-निविदाएं आमन्त्रित की जाती हैं। ई-प्रक्रियामेंटसेल्सुशन द्वारा निविदाएं द्विस्तरीय पद्धति से खोली जायेगी।
कार्यालय आदेश संख्या : वाई ई.ए. / GM(P) / 2024 / 990 दिनांक 31.12.2024 के अनुपालन में यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण की कार्यों में सविदाकार द्वारा बिल ऑफ क्वांटिटी (बीओक्व्यू) पर डाले गये 10 प्रतिशत कम दरों तक 0.5 प्रतिशत प्रति एक प्रतिशत कम दर पर तथा उसके प्रस्ताव 10 प्रतिशत से अधिक कम दरों पर 1.00 प्रतिशत प्रति एक प्रतिशत कम दर पर सिक्वोरिटी / परफॉर्मंस गारंटी प्राप्त की जायेगी तथा परफॉर्मंस गारंटी एफ0डी0आर0 / सी0डी0आर0 / बैंक गारंटी / एन0एस0सी0 के रूप में न्यूनतम सविदाकार द्वारा अनुबन्ध गठन से पूर्व देनी होगी, जो कार्य के अन्तिम बीजक होने के बाद वापिस होगी।

क्रम सं०	कार्य का नाम / वर्क सर्फिस	अनुमानित लागत
1.	Pond Rejuvenation in Village- Bankapur and Dustampur, YEA WC-06	रु० 37.90 लाख
2.	Pach Repair work of 60mtr wide Road and 75mtr wide (Road No-13) Between Sector-28 and 29 YEA WC-04	रु० 11.72 लाख
3.	Annual Jungle Cleaning of Internal road patri pocket-R,S,T and U Sec-20 YEA WC-02	रु० 25.59 लाख
4.	Maintenance of 75mtr wide road Between sector 28 and 29 (Road no-13) YEA WC-4	रु० 07.31 लाख
5.	Construction of Shamshan Ghat in Village –Tirthali Kheda, YEA WC-6	रु० 27.15 लाख
6.	Providing and laying interlocking tiles and R.c.c Drain work main road side in Village –Jewar Banger, YEA WC-6	रु० 40.47 लाख

जिन्हें दिनांक 07.01.2025 से 17.01.2025 को 5:00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है। प्राप्त ई-निविदाओं की प्री-क्वालीफिकेशन दिनांक 20.01.2025 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे खोली जायेगी।

क्रम सं०	कार्य का नाम / वर्क सर्फिस	अनुमानित लागत
7.	Providing and fixing of interlocking tile work in Village-Akalpur (Including Construction of Drain) YEIDA WC-06	रु० 11.63 लाख
8.	Construction of 01Nos tubewell Rising main pumping house near bikano, surya global and other plot in sector -29, YEIDA WC-04	रु० 69.63 लाख
9.	Providing and fixing G.I chain link fabric fencing and brick chamber work in pond in village Ahmadpur choroli Dyorar and jewar banger, YEA WC-06	रु० 23.49 लाख
10.	Supplying and stacking of bhusa for chanchli gaushala, YEA (2024-2025) WC-06	रु० 31.54 लाख
11.	Supply of tractor with trolly and sweeper hire for cleaning of affordable house of block A and B and LIG and MIG in sector 22D YEA. WC-02	रु० 36.98 लाख
12.	Maintenance work of water supply in affordable houses sector 22D (Block- B) YEIDA. WC-02	रु० 27.10 लाख

जिन्हें दिनांक 08.01.2025 से 17.01.2025 को 5:00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है। प्राप्त ई-निविदाओं की प्री-क्वालीफिकेशन दिनांक 20.01.2025 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे खोली जायेगी।

क्रम सं०	कार्य का नाम / वर्क सर्फिस	अनुमानित लागत
13.	Modification and maintenance Under operation kayakalp for J.H.S and P.S. Balance work in (Zone-08) phase-2 YEIDA	रु० 285.00 लाख
14.	Cleaning and Sweeping work in 46 Village- (Zone- 05, 07, 08 and 09) of YEA One year WC-06	रु० 702.11 लाख

जिन्हें दिनांक 09.01.2025 से 22.01.2025 को 5:00 बजे तक अपलोड किया जा सकता है। प्राप्त ई-निविदाओं की प्री-क्वालीफिकेशन दिनांक 24.01.2025 को प्रातः 11:00 बजे खोली जायेगी।

1. निविदा प्रपत्र उत्तर प्रदेश इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स कारपोरेशन की वेबसाइट <http://etender.up.nic.in> पर देखे जा सकते हैं। इच्छुक ठेकेदारों से अनुरोध है कि वे नियमित रूप से उक्त वेबसाइट को देखते रहें क्योंकि निविदाओं के सम्बन्ध में कोई बदलाव अथवा अतिरिक्त सूचना वेबसाइट पर ही उपलब्ध करायी जायेगी।
महाप्रबन्धक (परियोजना)
यमुना एक्सप्रेसवे औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के अधिसूचित क्षेत्र में प्राधिकरण द्वारा स्वीकृत मास्टर प्लान के अतिरिक्त प्लॉटिंग / हाउसिंग / कॉलोनी या किसी भी प्रकार का अन्य निर्माण पूरी तरह से अवैध है। सामान्यजन इस प्रकार की खरीद फरोख्त से पूर्णतः सचेत रहें तथा कॉलोनाइजर के भ्रामक विज्ञापनों से बचें। अधिक जानकारी के लिए प्राधिकरण की वेबसाइट www.yamunaexpresswayauthority.com देखें।

**Government of Maharashtra**
STATE COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING
MAHARASHTRA, PUNE
708, Kumthekar Road, Sadashiv Peth, Pune-411030

E-TENDER NOTICE
Online tenders are invited for the supply of Secondary level mathematics kits in the selected Government /Local body schools by Director, SCERT, Maharashtra, Pune and will be received in the form of Tenders up to **05:00 PM on 16/01/2025**. E-tender documents be will available at <https://mahatenders.gov.in> from 31/12/2024 at 05:00 PM.
Sd/-
Rahul Rekharwar (IAS) Director,
State Council of Educational Research and Training, Maharashtra, Pune
DGIPR 2024-25/5333

GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF EXCISE, ENTT. & LUXURY TAX
L & N BLOCK, VIKAS BHAWAN, I.P. ESTATE, NEW DELHI-110002
PUBLIC NOTICE

The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has approved revision of the MRP (Maximum Retail Price) of Quarts (750 ml), Pints (375 ml) and Nips (180 ml) of Spiced Country Liquor, to be sold through the Licensed Country Liquor Vends, in the National Capital Territory of Delhi for the year 2024-25 w.e.f. 01.01.2025 (Wednesday) as per details given below:

Sizes	Quart (750 ml.)	Pint (375 ml.)	Nip (180 ml.)
MRP (in Rs.)	200/-	100/-	50/-

For more details, please visit the website <https://excise.delhi.gov.in/> or <https://eabkari.delhi.gov.in/>.
Sd/-
(RAVI JHA)
COMMISSIONER (EXCISE)
DIP/Shabdarth/Classified/0344/24-25

Emphasis on infra boost, tribal welfare in PM's NY clip

► Continued from P 1

The video post highlighted achievements of India in 2024 ranging from major decisions to accelerate infrastructure development, inauguration of Ram temple, tribal welfare, poverty reduction, launch of Aditya L1 Mission to the sun, and extending health cover to 70 year-plus population, to success of diplomacy and assembly elections in J&K.

As per records, Cabinet in the past seven months has approved infrastructure projects worth Rs 9.5 lakh crore for development of the largest container port at Vadnvan in Maharashtra, construction of high speed road projects, and expansion of railway networks. Cabinet also took 20 decisions for farmers worth Rs 2.2 lakh crore, including Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna, PM Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Yojna and National Mission for Edible Oils.

In a series of posts, PMO reflected on memorable moments of 2024, which included the PM's international visits. The tweets mentioned India's active role in global summits in 2024, which highlights its commitment to promoting international cooperation and a sustainable, equitable world.

PMO also mentioned how India is setting global standards in climate action with innovative policies, renewable energy leadership and initiatives such as International Solar Alliance, Mission LiFE and Global Biofuels Alliance, paving the way for a sustainable and prosperous future. "Rising as a symbol of progress and resilience, India is earning global recognition for its economic progress, technological advancements and contributions to regional and global stability," the PMO said.

Adani remarks follow NRN's suggestion of 70-hr work week

► Continued from P 1

Talking about work-life balance, Adani group chairman Gautam Adani said, "Say, someone spends four hours with family and finds joy in it, or if someone else spends eight hours and enjoys it, that is their work-life balance. However, if you spend eight hours with your family, biwi bhaag jayegi (Wife will run away)."

The Adani group chairman's comments came amid ongoing debate and discussions sparked by Infosys co-founder Narayana Murthy's suggestion of a 70-hour work week. Murthy has previously spoken about working up to 90 hours a week during his career and has positioned hard work as a responsibility for those who have benefited from govt-subsidised education.

The honcho insisted work-life balance is achieved when individuals engage in activities they enjoy. "Your work and life are balanced when you do things that you like doing. For us, it is either family or work; we don't have a world other than that. Our children also notice the same and imbibе it. They are also equally hard working," Adani said.

He believes acknowledging one's mortality simplifies life. "Personal character and humility are the most important things. The rest, according to me, is all artificial, including your wealth, etc. What you eat, I eat. What money gives you is the power to decide what and how you can impact by using it. Everyone is passing through the journey of life. Nobody is here to live permanently. When a person understands this, life becomes simple," he said.

SC all but snubs Punjab 'plea' to involve Centre

► Continued from P 1

The bench posted the matter for further hearing on Jan 2.

Punjab AG told the court that the state has deployed 7,000 security personnel near the ports site but a Punjab bandh called by another farmer union had completely hindered traffic. "We are doing our best to achieve the desired result," he said.

The bench asked the state chief secretary and DGP to remain present virtually during the Jan 2 hearing of the contempt petition, which has accused the Bhagwant Singh

40 injured in Manipur violence after forces demolish bunkers

Kuki Women's Body Says Site Falls In 'Tribe's Territory'

Kangkan.Kalital
@timesofindia.com

Guwahati: At least 40 people were wounded Tuesday during a confrontation between central security forces and women protesters in Kangpokpi district of Manipur after an attempt to dismantle what residents described as "community bunkers" in the Saibol-Twicing area.

Forces have dismantled four such structures in Imphal East and Kangpokpi districts since Saturday. According to security sources, the bunkers were used by gunmen to launch attacks. The operation to remove unauthorised bunkers follows a series of attacks that recently left four people hurt, including a police officer and a woman.

The women's wing of Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum said more than 30 women suffered serious wounds. One



The women's wing of Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum said more than 30 women suffered serious wounds in the clash

woman lost an eye and has been sent to Guwahati for treatment. Kuki Women Union (KWU) said Saibol-Twicing lies within Kuki territory and outside established buffer zones separating Kuki and Meitei communities.

The ethnic conflict in Manipur, which broke out on May 3 last year and left more than 250 dead, has deepened divisions between Kuki-Zo tribal communities in the hill districts and Meitei population in Imphal valley. Tensions remain high as tribal groups accuse the central forces of partiality — favouring Meiteis over Kukis, fuelling demands for their withdrawal.

"Despite the forces' presence, attackers have earlier crossed these zones to target Kuki communities. When we defend ourselves, forces destroy our bunkers and leave us vulnerable," KWU said. CM N Biren Singh defended the security forces: "They have the authority to position themselves wherever deemed necessary."

Kuki Inpi, the apex body of Kuki tribes, alleged use of excessive force, including lathis and tear gas, against women. Kuki Women Organisation for Human Rights demanded an impartial probe and urged govt to hold security men accountable.

Village defence group demands public apology from Kuki Front

Imphal: The tribal village defence volunteers' group in Manipur's Churachandpur has called for a complete shutdown of the district, demanding a public apology from Kuki National Front (KNF) after an alleged armed attack by the outlawed outfit's commander Thahpi and his men on the CVDF compound on Dec 29, reports Ngathingkhui Jago.

The group did not mention a specific shutdown date, only saying that it is "effective immediately". "This unprovoked attack is deeply concerning and goes against the spirit of tribal unity," CVDF said, criticising the assault as a betrayal of tribal unity, particularly during ongoing conflicts involving the Meitei community. CVDF questioned the motives of Kuki factions and speculated Meitei influence behind internal divisions among tribal groups.

Drug smugglers, infiltrators from Myanmar top threats: Biren

► Continued from P 1

Cases of arson and vandalism, too, declined from 16,443 during the peak of the strife to 167 during the same period in 2024, he said.

"Now that the situation has improved, political dialogue should start between the communities involved," Singh told TOI. "The resilience of our people and the measures taken have led to a more stable environment. The road ahead looks promising."

At a presser in Imphal, the CM said Manipur's biggest threat was demographic change wrought by infiltrators from neighbouring Myanmar and drug smugglers.

"Since 2018, around 20,000 hectares of poppy plantation have been destroyed and drugs valued at more than Rs 70,000 crore in the contraband market have been seized. Around 3,700 drug smugglers and other suspects have been arrested."

The CM said govt had taken several initiatives aimed at sustainable development and rehabilitation of those affected by the strife.

Over 2,000 displaced families have returned home, supported by Rs 32 crore in farm compensation. Plans are underway for residential skill development programmes for 500 youths, with training and assured placements in Air India and IndiGo, and migration support centres in Delhi, Bengaluru, and Hyderabad, operational from January 2025, he said.

Employment remains a priority, with the CM's entrepreneurship support schemes providing collateral-free loans of up to Rs 50,000 to internally displaced people.

Healthcare initiatives include free provision of 23 cancer drugs across district hospitals and the construction of a 60-bed mental health facility under a central scheme, Biren Singh said.

"Education has also seen a boost with the establishment of 13 model residential schools and financial assistance for displaced students in private institutions."

The govt is addressing infrastructure deficits with additional flights from Imphal to key destinations, electrification of 36,972 households, and improved road connectivity.

PM too should go to Manipur, say sorry: Cong

New Delhi: As Manipur CM N Biren Singh apologised for the continuing ethnic conflict in the state, Congress said PM Narendra Modi should visit the state and tender an apology to the people.

AICC spokesperson Jairam Ramesh said, "Why can't the PM go to Manipur and say the same thing there? He has deliberately avoided visiting the state since May 4, 2023, even as he jets around the country and the world. The people of Manipur simply cannot understand this neglect." **TNN**

HOW A POPULAR SARPANCH'S MURDER SPARKED POLITICAL FIRESTORM IN MAHA

Santosh Deshmukh, 44, was sarpanch of Massajog village in Beed district. On Dec 9, he was abducted, beaten and tortured to death by a group of men who intercepted his car while he was on his way home. Deshmukh was popular. He had won awards for his work. Beed district is now in upheaval. Protesters have blocked roads and highways, a bus has been torched and over 100 people face rioting charges. How did a murder trigger such unrest?

Text: Mohammed Akhef



Timeline

May 28: Employees of a pvt windmill co, Avada, in Kej tehsil kidnapped by group of men who allegedly demand Rs 2 crore for operations to resume. Company was in the process of acquiring land for windmill project. Main accused is one Ramesh Ghule; Kej police register case.

Dec 6: Group led by Ghule turns up at Avada site in Massajog, assaults employees and guard who try to stop them from entering. Message sent to sarpanch Santosh Deshmukh who, along with a few villagers, rushes to spot. They scuffle with the group and Deshmukh exchanges blows with a man identified as Sudarshan Ghule. The incident is recorded on mobile phone cameras by villagers, who keep the videos as status messages in an apparent message to the miscreants. Ghule is arrested but is out on bail a day later.

Dec 9: Around 3 pm, these accused, led by Sudarshan Ghule, intercept Deshmukh's car and pull him into an SUV. His body is found hours later.

Dec 10: Massajog village erupts in anger. Scores of people, backed by Maratha quota activist Manoj Jarange, block highway for nearly 12 hours. A bus is torched. Police file complaints against 150 villagers. Roads in Kej blocked, another 125 people booked for rioting charges.

Dec 11: Cops in Kej register an FIR for the extortion attempt against Avada. This FIR names Valmik Karad, believed to be a close aide of food and civil supplies minister Dhananjay Munde, as accused.

Anger against crime

► **Valmik Karad** has been described by Beed locals as a 'local Baahubali', who saw himself as "above the law"

► **Karad** has at least 10 criminal cases against him, from attempt to murder to kidnapping

TOI Explains

► His business interests range from real estate to sand mining. He's also the "go-to" man in the region for minister Dhananjay Munde, responsible for organizing political campaigns and events

Political tangle

Politicians across party lines are believed to have seen opportunity when protesters began to gather. For some, it was just a case of sour grapes. Dhananjay Munde's fortunes in state politics have upset senior MLAs and MPs from the region. In Beed, MLAs like Prakash Solunke, Suresh Dhas have won elections 4-5 times but haven't secured ministerial

Who was Santosh Deshmukh?

A popular figure in Massajog village, described as friendly and accessible. Had MA degree. Entered active politics in 2013. In 2017, his wife Ashwini won sarpanch polls. In 2022, Deshmukh followed, winning election with big majority. Under the couple's leadership, Massajog won 19 awards in 7 years, including recognition for having best water supply and sanitation systems in Marathwada.

Sack mantri, demands oppn; Fadnavis says no one will be spared

Priyanka Kakodkar & Prafulla Marpakwar | TNN

Mumbai: Even as pressure is building up on chief minister **Devendra Fadnavis** to sack food and civil supplies minister Dhananjay Munde, whose aide Valmik Karad surrendered to the CID, the CM, who also controls the home department, said, "No one will be spared. Strong action will be taken against anyone found to be connected in the Beed case."

"We will not allow a state of goondas. Violence and extortion will not be allowed. The investigation has been speedy and that is why he has surrendered. Teams have fanned out to arrest the rest of the absconding accused," the CM said.

Fadnavis said he had assured the family of sarpanch Santosh Deshmukh police would investigate until the culprits were hanged.

Adding there was no pressure on the investigation

team, Fadnavis said, and it is up to police to decide how to proceed. "The CID has been given total independence."

Ex-MP Sambhaji Raje urged the chief minister to remove Munde from the cabinet. Asked about demands for Munde's arrest, Fadnavis said, "I am not going to comment on allegations of politics behind the case. If there is proof against anyone, police will act on that basis. We only want to punish those responsible," he said.

The opposition said Karad's surrender was pre-planned and result of a "setting" with govt.

"The fact he was going to surrender was revealed in advance," said NCP (SP)'s Jitendra Awhad. "I have been told that in one of the clips, Munde stated Karad is his trusted aide," he added.

NCP (SP) MP Supriya Sule said, "Why did he have to surrender? Govt should have arrested him."

Why 3 accused still absconding, asks daughter of slain sarpanch

Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar: Vaibhavi Deshmukh, daughter of murdered Massajog sarpanch Santosh Deshmukh, on Tuesday demanded the arrest of three absconding men accused of murdering her father, reports **Prasad Joshi**. "It's been three weeks since my father's brutal murder, and three people involved are still at large. Why is so much time being wasted? If the delay in nabbing the absconding accused continues, we will lose hope of getting justice," she said.

Reacting to Valmik Karad — the key accused in the extortion case linked to Deshmukh's murder — surrendering before the CID in Pune, Vaibhavi said it is frustrating to know that police were allegedly waiting for him (Karad) to surrender, instead of arresting him. Seven people have so far been named accused in the case of Santosh Deshmukh's alleged kidnapping and murder on Dec 9. Three of them, including the main accused Sudarshan Ghule, are still on the run.

New Gen Z, desi terms vibe with Scrabble fam

Sharmila.Ganesan
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Thirty-two-year-old Santacruz resident Hriday Samtani can't wait to get Botox. On his Scrabble rack, that is.

Containing the high-scoring "power tile" 'X', this five-letter modernism is among 1,816 freshly added words, including 'Tomoz' (tomorrow), 'Yeet' (to throw with force), 'Boutjee' (luxurious in lifestyle, humble in character), and 'Peng' (very beautiful) that have injected the board game's official dictionary with Gen Z vigour.

"It's exciting to see the lexicon evolving with modern slang and cultural shifts," says Samtani, who is looking forward to playing words like 'Yeet' and 'Peng' at MuSigma KSSA Indian Open. To be held in Bangalore from Jan 23 to 26, 2025, the tentpole event, which sees scrabblers from across the globe battling it out across four divisions, will be first tournament in India to embrace additions to Collins Scrabble dictionary, which was last updated in 2020.

Featuring a slew of Hindi terms, the update animate de-



GAME ON!

si champs such as Samtani for whom the language was his favourite subject in school. "Kanjus. Kamchor. Samaj. Janta," rattles off national fourth-ranker Samtani, listing the new entrants which — when strung like that — make him sound like a troll commenting on "lazy, bench-warming" masses. Except, in the deviant 225-square grid world of Scrabble, words have no meaning. They are merely spellings with numbers.

"While some of the Hindi words are completely new like 'Kamchor', for many other words, an alternate spelling ('Kunjoos') was valid earlier," clarifies 14-year-old Madhav Kamath, India's top-rated youth scrabbler. "The additions clear up any

confusion I'd have on the spellings while playing," says Kamath, to whom the updated dictionary seems "one-third Indian and one-third Japanese or Korean".

If the "delayed" addition of a few Greek words like 'Threnoi' and 'Sekoi' surprised him because "Greek is an ancient language", terms belonging to the language of the future too threw — ahem — yeeted him.

Apart from "high-probability bingos" (7-letter words) such as 'Xennial' & 'Zoodles', additions include 'Espor', 'Gastro', 'Vacay' & other words that scrabblers thought were valid earlier. If Kamath is happy to see some of the words that he "phonied" in the past — 'Fam', 'Loc', 'Derp', 'Nerf', 'Sitch', 'Vibed' — being legitimised, 'Fam', short for family, Samtani feels, was an addition long overdue.

More than remembering new words, unlearning those that have been deleted is trickier, say players. In 2020, while NASPA removed 259 offensive slurs from their official word list, Mattel ousted 419 words from Scrabble dictionary in a move against hate speech.

Bytes Under Siege: India's 2024 Cyber Challenge

India's cybersecurity landscape in 2024 faced significant challenges, with critical sectors like finance, healthcare, and govt under relentless attack. As a key player in global cyber trends, India's resilience and evolving strategies continue to shape its defence narrative

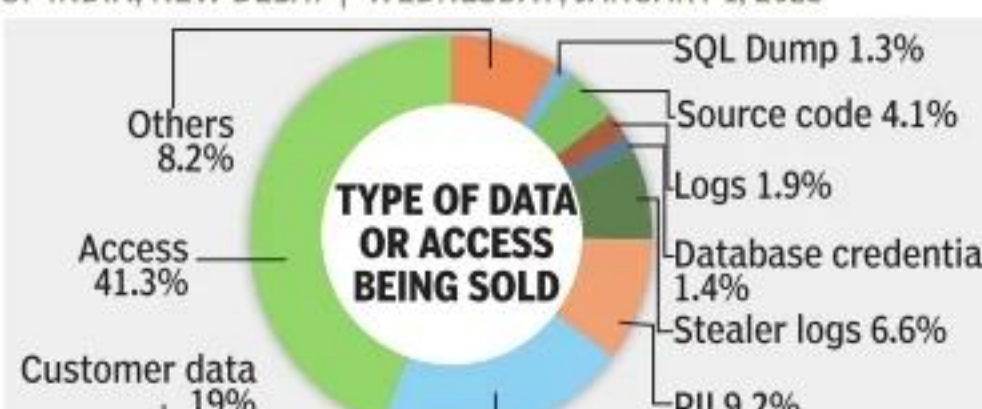


DATA BREACHES IN INDIA

- 850mn records breached at Hi-Tek Group, a debt collection agency
- 2TB of data leaked from Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL)
- Other significant incidents: Star Health Insurance breach and Shell's data loss

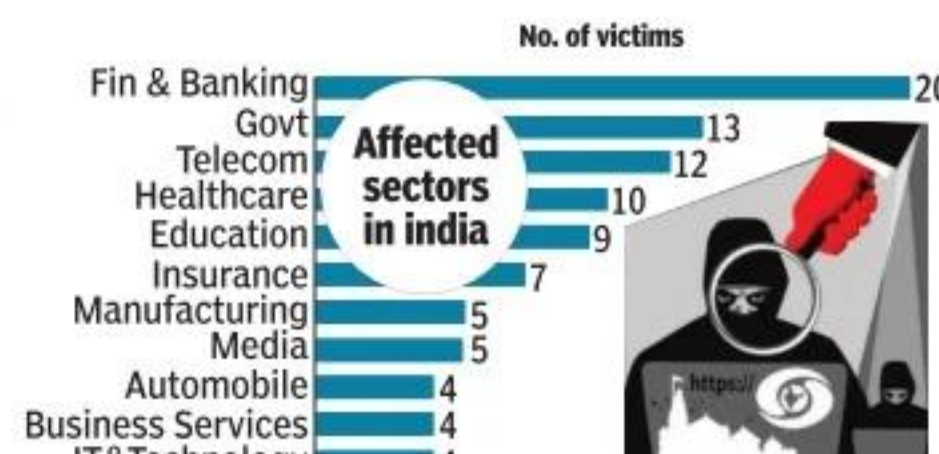
DATA SOLD BY THREAT ACTORS

- 12,332 GB of Indian data sold in 2024, with 4.4 bn lines of records compromised
- Ranked second globally for cyberattacks, trailing only the US



SECTORAL TRENDS WORLDWIDE

- Ransomware targeting sectors globally: Manufacturing (16.3%), construction (12.1%), and healthcare (10.8%) led the victim list
- 995 TB of data stolen globally



Gold set to extend record run, may hit ₹90k/10gm in 2025

New Delhi: Gold, a safe-haven bet, is likely to continue its record-smashing journey in 2025, rising to Rs 85,000 per 10 gram and even Rs 90,000 if geopolitical tensions and global economic uncertainties continue. Experts feel gold to be a strong performer in 2025 as well, buoyed by central bank purchases and a pivot towards lower interest rates by major central banks. Outlook for gold in 2025 remains positive, though pace of growth may moderate, LKP Securities VP research analyst — commodity, Jateen Trivedi said. AGENCIES



Now, you can file revised ITR by Jan 15

New Delhi: Last date for filing Income Tax Return for 2023-24 was July 31, and for those who could not, the time was for filing a revised ITR with late fees was Dec 31. But now, CBDT has extended this deadline to Jan 15. As last date for filing GST return is Dec 31, GST-registered taxpayers will have to submit it to consolidate annual transactions. AGENCIES

Factory activity in China slows in Dec

Hong Kong: China's factory activity expanded at a slower pace in Dec, official data showed, despite stimulus steps and in face of increasing trade risks. The Purchasing Managers' Index, based on a survey of factory managers, slipped to 50.1 in Dec from 50.3 in Nov, the National Bureau of Statistics said on Tuesday. AGENCIES

A Clarification

Tata Motors has clarified that it had "pro-actively taken a price reduction up to Rs 3 lakh on the Nexon-ev, passing on benefits of battery price reduction to its customers" in Sept. It is not a price discount as mentioned in the story 'EVs on discount as stock piles up' which appeared in TOI's Dec 31, 2024 edition.

figure it out

At 183% increase, Argentina leads in food price surge. It also has the highest food inflation forecast for next year's second quarter at 120%



Source: Visual Capitalist

10-min delivery boom: Cos to watch out for profit, regulatory hiccups

Q-Comm's Rapid Growth May See Speed Bumps In Smaller Cities

Asmita.Dey@timesofindia.com

Mumbai: From stocking up on breakfast staples milk and eggs, packs of noodles and chips to satisfy midnight cravings and buying iPhone 16 at the top of their smartphones, Indians shopped their way through quick commerce platforms last year.

10-minute deliveries will continue to be the flavour of 2025 as companies add more categories, expanding consumer use cases; people especially in the bigger metros do not mind paying some extra amount to get grocery and other supplies delivered at their doorstep and save up time. But as players spend billions of

dollars to scale up and enter smaller cities, all of which may not fetch high returns on investment, their profitability may come under pressure.

Potential regulatory challenges could be another area firms may have to navigate in the New Year amid demand from trade groups to inspect quick commerce companies for alleged violation of FDI norms and putting small kiranas out of business.

Earlier this week, the commerce and industry ministry met with firms, the first among a series of such meetings to under-

stand their business models and seek comments on complaints levelled against them by FMCG distributors' association and other industry bodies, sources told TOI.

Purchases of electronics, small appliances and kitchen appliances will increasingly shift to quick commerce platforms going ahead, said analysts. In fact, a wider selection of products has already helped companies expand their average order value (AOV). From about Rs300-350 before, AOVs have increased to Rs 450-600, said Shivaraj Jayakumar, practice leader, consumer and internet

at Praxis Global Alliance. Over the years, companies in the space have quickly moved beyond grocery to deliver

Electronics Will Shift To Quick Commerce



a host of non-grocery items to consumers with some of them like Zepto now testing the potential of 10-minute food delivery with the launch of a separate café app. For FMCG companies, about 30% of the online sales have already moved to quick commerce. "From consumers' point of

view, there is definitely the need for quick commerce. The platforms offer a lot of convenience," said Jayakumar. The growth of rapid deliveries has nudged e-commerce giants Flipkart, Amazon and even fashion player Myntra to foray into the space. "Myntra has made the move at the right

time. Quick commerce is growing fast and even if 10% of the fashion sales move to the 10-minute delivery platforms, it will be challenging for Myntra. They have to be there," said Satish Meena, adviser at Datum Intelligence. Already, companies ranging from Fabindia and Decathlon to Bata have launched their selection on quick commerce platforms with more brands queuing up to take a bite of rapid deliveries.

The rising influence of the Gen Z in terms of dictating household spends will continue to fuel appetite for quick commerce and companies will only leverage this trend. "Consumption patterns are changing. The younger lot is much more impatient and companies are trying to capture this cohort because the market size then increases for them," said an industry executive. Quick com-

merce sector is estimated to surpass \$6 billion in sales in 2024 from \$3.5 billion in 2023, industry data suggests. "In 2025, consumers will have access to an even broader selection of general merchandise—from pharma, electronics and fashion to kitchen essentials delivered to their doorstep in 10 minutes," said a Swiggy Instamart spokesperson adding that the company will set up bigger dark stores in tier one and two cities, equipped to house over 50,000 products.

The sector seems to be on a good stead and companies have found favour with investors—Zepto alone bagged over \$1 billion in funding in 2024; however, as companies plot their expansion by entering smaller cities, profitability will be a challenge. "People in smaller cities do not consume very high AOV categories. For instance, an item like liquid detergent which is popular in metros offer better margins than detergent which finds space in more households in smaller cities," said Jayakumar. Beyond cities like Kochi, Jaipur which house tech talent with spending power, scaling in tier two and three cities may be difficult and as companies expand, profitability may be a challenge which is what happened with food delivery as well, said analysts. Major players Swiggy (Instamart separately is also in losses) and Zepto's businesses remains in the red, filings showed. While Swiggy posted consolidated losses of Rs 625 crore in the Sept quarter, higher sequentially, Zepto's FY24 losses stood at Rs 1,200 crore. Blinkit reported higher adjusted EBITDA losses in Q2 sequentially.

D-St bull run loses steam on FPI selloff in volatile yr

Sensex Rises 8% In 2024, Slides 9% From Sept-End High

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

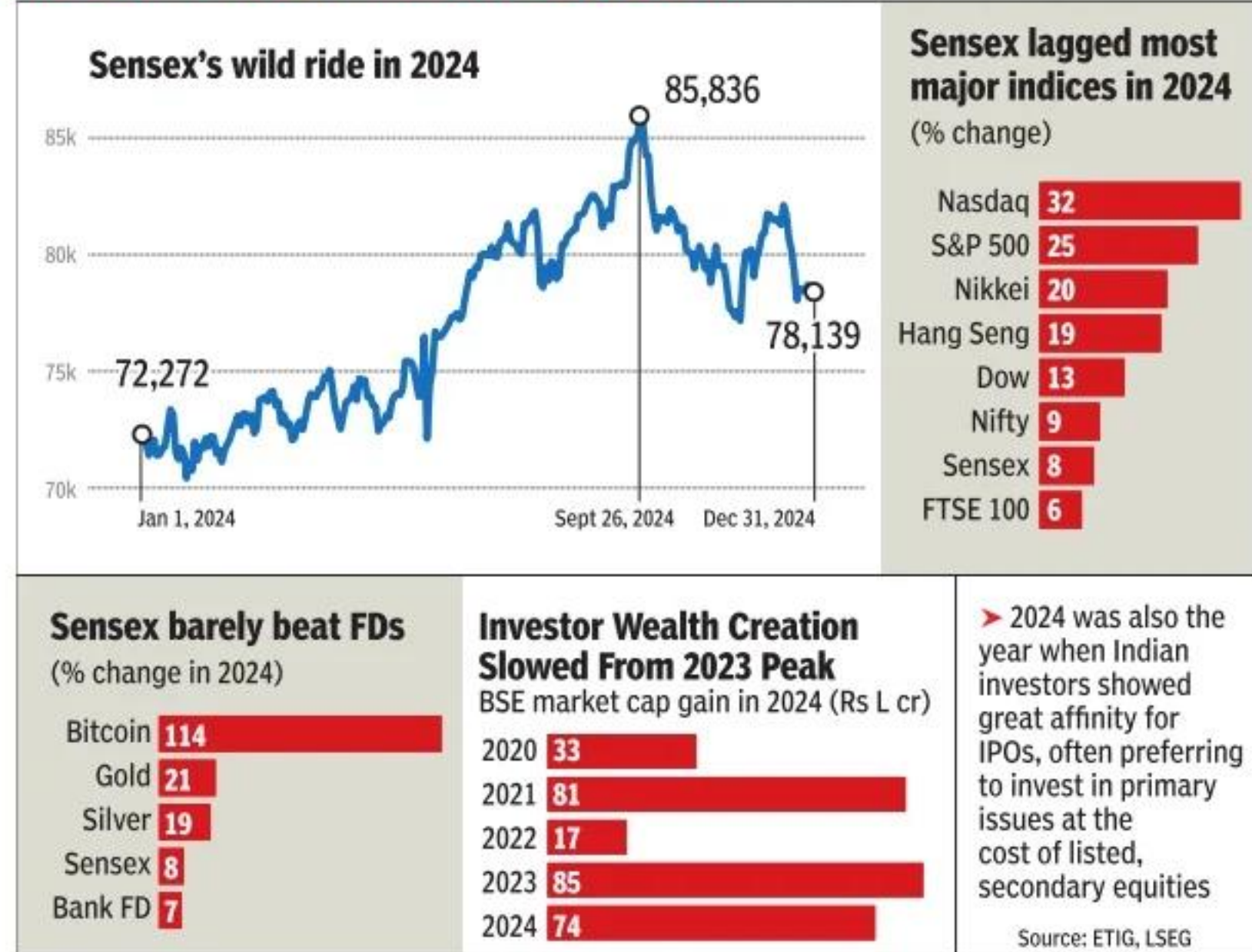
Mumbai: For Dalal Street investors, 2024 is a story of two parts, unequally divided. During the first nine months, the two leading indices—the sensex and Nifty—scaled new highs at regular intervals. And then came a sudden burst of foreign fund selling that shaved off a large chunk of the gains from the earlier month.

As a result, the two leading indices, after recording its all-time highs at 85,978 points and 26,277 points in end-Sept, fell sharply in the next two months. And after a volatile Dec, on Tuesday the sensex closed at 78,139 points (up 8%) and Nifty at 23,645 points (up 9%)—one of the lowest yearly returns in recent years.

According to Sheetal Malpani, chief investment officer & head of equity, Tamohara Investment Managers, a Sebi-registered portfolio manager, in 2024, the first half saw some good demand for stocks which took benchmark indices higher. In the second half, there was adequate supply, in the form of a large number of IPOs and public offers, which in a way led to subdued annual returns.

Malpani expects some correction in 2025, either a price correction (where the prices move southward to ad-

ONE OF LOWEST ANNUAL RETURNS IN RECENT YEARS



just for the valuations to come down to reasonable levels), or a time correction (where prices remain constant but earnings growth, over a few quarters, adjust the valuations to come down to reasonable levels). There is also a possibility for both the corrections to kick in in phases. "Since April 2020

new investors have not seen any reasonable correction in the stock market. So, it needs to be seen how the new lot behaves during a corrective phase," Malpani said.

The year also witnessed investors remaining more bullish on small and midcap stocks over blue chips. According to data from NSE,

compared to single-digit percentage return by nifty, its midcap 50 index returned 21.5% while the smallcap 50 returned a little over 25%.

2024 was also the year when Indian investors showed great affinity for IPOs, often preferring to invest in primary issues at the cost of listed, secondary equities.

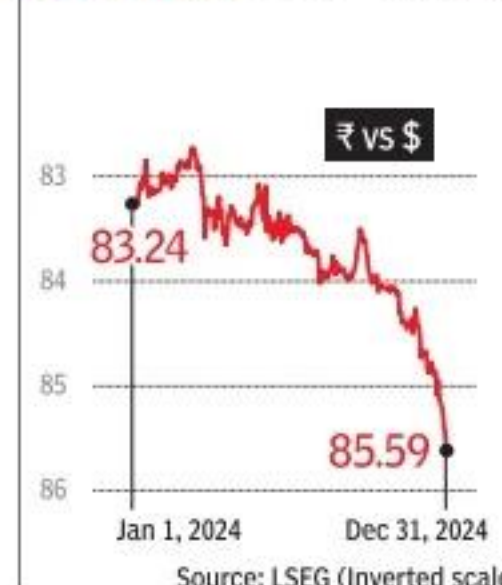
Rupee plunges nearly 3% in 2024, from 83.24 to record low of 85.59/\$

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: The rupee ended 2024 on a weaker note, depreciating 2.8% against the US dollar to close the year at 85.59, down from Monday's close of 84.54. This marked the seventh consecutive year of decline for the Indian currency. Dealers attributed the year-end drop to a possible shift in RBI's forex intervention strategy, which may have allowed a slight correction in the rupee, keeping it among the least depreciated emerging market currencies.

Throughout the year, the US dollar strengthened against most major currencies. It gained 11.1% versus the Japanese yen, 3.1% against the South African rand, 27% versus the Brazilian real, 22% aga-

7TH YEAR OF DECLINE



inst the Mexican peso, 13.7% versus the Korean won, 4.5% against the Indonesian rupiah, 4.7% versus the Philippine peso, 3.27% against the Singapore dollar, and 6.7% versus the Taiwanese dollar.

The rupee remained relatively stable in the first half

of the year, buoyed by capital inflows following the inclusion of Indian bonds in global bond indices. A brief spell of volatility in June, triggered by election results, was short-lived. However, the currency began to weaken in Sept as FPIs adopted a "sell-India-buy-China" strategy, leading to a decline in market indices and additional pressure on the rupee. The victory of US President-elect Donald Trump in Nov led to the dollar gaining against most currencies worldwide.

The most significant depreciation occurred in the fourth quarter, with the rupee weakening 2.2% during this period. On Dec 27, the currency hit an intraday low of 85.81. RBI intervened frequently to stabilise the rupee, drawing

down forex reserves, which peaked at \$704.9 billion before falling by \$60.5 billion by the end of the year.

Foreign portfolio investors pulled \$11.7 billion from Indian equities in the fourth quarter, compared to \$12 billion in inflows during the first nine months. For 2024, net equity inflows totalled Rs 5,000 crore, a steep drop from Rs 1.71 lakh crore in 2023.

Analysts pointed to structural factors contributing to the rupee's depreciation, such as inflation differentials between India and the US and India's persistent current account deficit, driven by its dependence on oil and gold imports. However, the pace of depreciation in the coming year is expected to hinge on the level of capital flows.

Core sector growth rises to 4-mth high

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Growth in the country's eight key infrastructure sectors rose to a four-month high in Nov, led by cement, coal and electricity sectors. Data released by the commerce and industry ministry on Tuesday showed the eight core sectors, spanning coal, crude oil, natural gas, petroleum/refinery products, fertilisers, steel, cement and electricity grew 4.3% in Nov, higher than the 3.7% in Oct but lower than the 7.9% in Nov last year.

The core sector accounts for over 40% of the index of industrial production (IIP) and a robust outcome has an impact on the data, which is expected to be released later this month.

4.3% IN NOV

The cement sector grew 13% in Nov compared to 3.1% in the previous month and a contraction of 4.7% in same month last year. The electricity sector rose 3.8% higher than the 2% recorded in last month but lower than the 5% in Nov last year.

Coal production remained robust and grew 7.5% in Nov almost at Oct's level of 7.8% and higher than contraction of 0.4% in Nov last year.

Two of the eight sectors contracted, with crude oil and natural gas continuing their downtrend. The crude sector contracted for the seventh consecutive month, while the natural gas sector contracted for the fifth month in a row.

"The core sector growth rose to 4.3% in Nov 2024 from a revised 3.7% in October 2024, with an improvement

in half of its 8 constituents, partly reflecting the fading impact of heavy rainfall in the earlier months. The sequential uptick in the core sector's performance was especially driven by a sharp increase in the growth of cement output, on the back of a low base," said Aditi Nayar, chief economist at ratings agency ICRA.

"Looking ahead, we expect the IIP to grow by 5-7% in Nov 2024, partly benefitting from the uptick in core sector growth," said Nayar.

\$31bn: Startup funding falls to lowest level since 2019

Yogesh.Kabirdoss@timesofindia.com

Chennai: 2024 ended with private equity-venture capital (PE-VC) investments of \$31.1 billion, the lowest since 2019 in India. The cumulative investments were down by 5.5% when compared with 2023, which accounted for \$32.9 billion, the second lowest in the past six years. However, the number of deals exceeded 1,000, from 993 a year ago (in 2023). The PE investments compiled exclude those from the real estate sector. Dec recorded an investment of \$2.2 billion, data released by research firm Venture Intelligence showed.

Nearly \$9 billion of PE-VC investments comprising 165 deals was made in late stage companies that are more than 10 years old, series-G or later rounds of institutional investments. It is followed by investments in growth-PE stage companies at \$6.3 billion involving 136 deals.

Growth-PE are seed to series-D investments, wherein the investments are more than \$20 million and companies are less than a decade old. Brookfields over \$2-billion deal with ATC India in Jan was the largest PE-VC investment in 2024. "2024 witnessed 74 mega deals (valued above \$100 million) accounting for deals worth \$20.7 billion, compared to 75 such investments worth \$23.2 billion in 2023. The highlight of the year was, of course, how receptive the public markets have been to IPOs of PE-VC backed companies like Swiggy and Ola Electric," Arun Natarajan, founder, Venture Intelligence told TOI.

Family settlement: Kirloskar cos to challenge Sebi

New Delhi: Four Kirloskar companies on Tuesday said they are preparing to legally challenge a letter by markets regulator Sebi, asking them to disclose the deed of family settlement that was signed by members of the Kirloskar family on Sept 11, 2009.

In separate regulatory filings, Kirloskar Ferrous Industries (KFI), Kirloskar Industries (KIL), Kirloskar Pneumatic Company and Kirloskar Oil Engines maintained they are not bound by deed of family settlement (DFS) nor does it have any impact or create any restriction or liability on them.

Sebi in a letter dated Dec 30, 2024 advised the companies to disclose the DFS, entered into among the members of the Kirloskar family in their personal capacity, under the Sebi listing obligations and disclosure requirements regulations, they said.

Kirloskar siblings, with Sanjay (Kirloskar Brothers CMD) on one side and Atul and Rahul on the other, have been in a feud since 2016 over the DFS for the assets of the more than 130-year-old Kirloskar group. Rahul Kirloskar is the executive chairman of Kirloskar Pneumatic and Atul Kirloskar is the executive chairman of Kirloskar Oil Engines.

The question of whether the DFS is binding on them, is pending before the civil court since 2018, the Kirloskar companies claimed adding "despite this Sebi has

opined on matters that are sub-judice. Further, Sebi's decision not only contains factual inaccuracies but is in complete ignorance of...settled principles of contract law, corporate laws and company law". Further, the companies asserted that they maintained the stand that they are not bound by the DFS nor does the DFS have any impact on them separately or create any restriction or liability on them.

Therefore, the companies said they are "not required to disclose the same" under the Sebi listing obligations and disclosure requirements regulations. Each company said they are "in the process of availing its legal remedies to challenge the said Sebi letter by filing appropriate legal proceedings".

Sebi in its letter stated that "since the DFS is subsisting in nature, indirectly creates a restriction on the listed entities managed/promoted by the parties to such DFS, warrants disclosure, regardless of whether such listed entity is a party to the agreement or not" under relevant provisions and advised the company "to disclose the DFS in terms of LODR regulations".

Sanjay Kirloskar had filed a complaint for non-disclosure of the DFS. KOEL on Sept 11, 2023 responded to the NSE that it was "an attempt to try and somehow cause KOEL to be bound by the DFS for his own ulterior motives". AGENCIES

Airport embankment in focus after South Korea plane crash

'24 Manual Sought Structure's Review, Saying It Was Too Near To Runway



TRAGEDY AVERTED IN LOS ANGELES: The US FAA has launched a probe after a private jet carrying the Gonzaga University men's basketball team nearly crossed a runway as another flight was taking off Friday at Los Angeles International Airport. Footage of the moment showed Delta Flight 471 was about to take off when an air-traffic controller was heard screaming "Stop, stop, stop!" at the basketball team's charter plane, operated by Key Lime Air. Luckily, the warning worked and no one was hurt

Air safety experts Tuesday questioned the placement of an airport embankment into which a South Korean passenger jet slammed after skidding past the end of the runway, resulting in the country's deadliest domestic air disaster. All 175 passengers and four of the six crew were killed on Sunday when the Jeju Air plane belly-landed at Muan International Airport, ploughed into the sand-and-concrete embankment and burst into a fireball.

What caused the pilot to attempt the landing after declaring an emergency was still under investigation. But comments in the airport's operating manual, uploaded early in 2024, said the embankment was too close to the end of the runway and recommended that the location of the equipment be reviewed during a planned expansion.

A transport ministry official said authorities would need to check the document before replying to questions. Experts criticised the positioning of the embankment, which held navigation equipment. "Unfortunately, that thing was the reason that everybody got killed, because they literally hit a concrete structure," Captain Ross Almer, the chief executive of Aero Consulting Experts, said.

The Boeing 737-800's "black box" flight data recorder recovered

from the crash site was missing a key connector and authorities were reviewing how to extract its data, but retrieval of data from the cockpit voice recorder has begun. Personnel from the US National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), Federal Aviation Administration, and aircraft maker Boeing have joined the investigations.

Transport ministry officials said most South Korean airports were built based on International Civil Aviation Organization rules that recommend a 240m runway-end safety area. However, a domestic law allows adjustments in a range that does not "significantly affect" the facility's performance. "We'll look into whether there are any conflicts in our own regulations," Kim Hong-rak, director general for airport policy, said.

Muan International Airport's operations manual said the navigation equipment, or localisers, had been installed too near the end of the runway, or just 199m from the crash site. The document, prepared by Korea Airports Corp, said the airport authority should "review securing additional distance during phase two of airport expansion". Officials have previously said the structure was about 250 m from the end of the runway itself, though a paved apron extends past that. REUTERS

From bird strike to jet crash: Mystery of 4 fateful minutes

Choe Sang-Hun

Already 30 minutes behind schedule, the pilot flying the Jeju Air jet with 181 people on board was preparing to land at his destination in southwestern South Korea on Sunday morning when the control tower warned him about flocks of birds in the area.

Two minutes later, at 8.59am (local time), the pilot reported a "bird strike" and "emergency", officials said. He told the air traffic control tower that he would do "a go-around", meaning he would abort his first landing bid and circle in the air to prepare for a second attempt. But he apparently did not have enough time. Instead, just a minute later, the veteran pilot — with nearly 7,000 flight hours in his career — was approaching the runway from opposite direction, from north to south. And 3 minutes later, at 9.03am, his plane, Jeju Air Flight 7C2216, slammed into a concrete structure off the southern end of the runway in a ball of flames.

All but two of the 181 people on board were killed. As officials were racing to probe the crash, a central question has emerged among analysts: What happened during the 4 minutes between the pilot's urgent report of bird strike and the crash? Footage of the Boeing 737-800 landing at the airport showed it skidding down the runway without its landing gear deployed.

As it hurtled along on its belly, engulfed by what looked like clouds of dust, smoke and sparks, it did not seem able to slow its speed before slamming into the concrete structure 820 feet after the end of the runway. "Why was the pilot in such a hurry to land," said Hwang Hwong, chair of the Korea Association for Aviation Security. When pilots want to do a belly landing, they usually try to buy time, Hwang said. But the pilot apparently decided that he didn't have such time, he said.



COULD IT HAVE BEEN AVERTED?

"Did he lose both engines?"

Experts who have watched the footage of the landing said the plane appeared to experience a fatal combination of factors that made the crash far worse than it could have been. The Muan airport normally has a 9,200-foot-long runway. But when the Jeju Air plane was landing, only 8,200 feet of it was usable because of construction work underway to extend the runway. (Still, this is long enough for landing 737-800s, officials say.) As it landed, the plane's pilot also appeared unable to control both its engines and landing gear, depriving him of two of the plane's three key means of slowing down: the landing gear brake and the engines' reverse thrusts, aviation experts said. They said the plane also did not appear to have activated its wing flaps, another means of cutting down speed. The plane went so fast that it overshot the runway and rammed straight into the concrete structure for localizer antenna.

"Engine trouble doesn't necessarily mean landing gear trouble; the two are not necessarily related," said Paek Seung-joo, a professor of public safety. "But in this case, both appear to have happened." And analysts said if both engines were lost, the pilot could still manually lower the landing gear. But given the hurried way the pilot tried to land, he might not have had enough time, they said. "Questions like these won't be answered until they examine the jet's flight data recorder," J Y Jung, an aviation expert said. NYT

MAGA hardliners now target OPT for int'l students as optics of H-1B changes

Claim That Work Permit Is 'Killing' Jobs For American College Graduates

Chidanand Rajghatta | TNN

Washington: MAGA nativists are taking aim at the OPT (Optional Practical Training) programme that helps foreign students and graduates, many from India, stay back in the United States to gain work experience, even as the optics surrounding the H-1B guest worker visa is changing rapidly.

After a fierce campaign against the H-1B visa programme that has forced pledges from the incoming Trump White House to review and reform it on grounds it is being misused to replace American workers, hardliners are now putting the OPT, seen as a precursor to H-1B, under the lens. Typically, foreign students who come to the US on an F1 visa are eligible to participate in OPT after their first academic year and remain in the US — for up to three years in case of STEM graduates — to gain work experience.

MAGA's 'America First' hardliners are arguing that OPT was originally intended as a short-term work permit for skill development, but has now "evolved into a tool to secure US jobs and a pathway for securing long-term work visas like the H-1B". "Employers saw



WHAT AWAITS... Already, a fierce campaign against the H-1B visa has forced pledges from the incoming Trump White House to review and reform it on grounds it is being misused to replace American workers

OPT workers as desperate, willing to do anything for H-1B sponsorship before their permit expired," the nativist tech workers coalition said Sunday, calling it "the largest guest worker programme killing jobs for new American college grads".

Many foreign students, particularly those from India, come to study in the US on the premise that they will get on OPT to gain work experience. In many cases, they transition on to H-1B visas during or near conclusion of the OPT period, giving them up to nine years in the US. In that time, some manage to get green cards and eventually become US citizens.

According to a Congressional Research Service report, in calendar year 2023, there were 1.5 million F1 and M1 (vocational training) students and recent graduates in the US. About 23% of those (344,686) were authorised to work via OPT.

Killing OPT would effectively

mean foreign students would have to exit the US after graduation without the benefit of gaining work experience, a prescription that would likely drastically reduce foreign students coming to the US.

The OPT programme dates back to 1947, when regulations provided that foreign students may work "in cases where employment for practical training is required or recommended by the school" and approved by immigration officials. To participate in OPT, a student must get approval from the school/college/university and then file an application for employment authorisation with the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). There is no limit on the number of F1 or M1 nonimmigrants who may participate in OPT. A vast majority (98%-99%) of OPT participants are in F1 status.

Some US policymakers have long argued for restricting

or eliminating the OPT programme, maintaining that it operates as a closet foreign worker programme without congressional approval, displaces US students and recent graduates, and is susceptible to national security risks. Others have argued that OPT should be continued or expanded because it allows educated foreign nationals to contribute to the economy and makes the US a more attractive destination for foreign students, who also bolster the finances of US colleges.

In fact, the OPT programme, which originally allowed a one-year work stint, was extended by successive Republican and Democratic govts. In 2008, the Bush administration extended the maximum period of OPT from 12 months to 29 months for F1 students who had completed a degree in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM). In 2016, the Obama administration further extended it to 36 months for those with STEM degrees.

Both administrations cited the economic, cultural, and academic contributions of foreign students, as well as national security concerns related to US economic and technological competitiveness, as justification for the extensions. But MAGA nativists, riding on their campaign against H1B, are now saying "nyet" in an effort to nix the OPT, blindsiding the US academia which values foreign students both as a financial and academic resource.

No legal barrier to prevent Awami League from polls: EC

Ahsan Tasnim

Dhaka: There is "no current legal barrier" preventing the Awami League from contesting polls, Bangladesh chief election commissioner AMM Nasir Uddin has said, amid lawsuits in courts seeking orders to bar the Sheikh Hasina-led party from participating in the national elections, the date of which is yet to be finalised. He also announced that preparations for the national polls are in progress, days after Bangladesh interim govt chief Muhammad Yunus said elections — pending since the fall of the Hasina govt in Aug — are likely to be held between the end of 2025 and the first half of 2026.

Addressing concerns about the participation of Awami League in the elections, Nasir Uddin, during a 'view-exchange' meeting in Chittagong on Monday, said, "It is primarily a political matter." "Some individuals have filed lawsuits seeking court orders to bar the Awami League from participating. If the court issues such a verdict, we will act accordingly. Otherwise, it remains a political decision," he said. The CEC asserted that "there is no current legal barrier preventing the party from contesting".

In a discussion on finalisation poll date during a 'view-exchange' meeting in Cumilla, Nasir Uddin, said, "We are awaiting reports from various reform commissions, including the election commission reform. Once we receive these, we will have a clearer idea about the timeline for the elections (with a specific date)."



ly. Otherwise, it remains a political decision," he said. The CEC asserted that "there is no current legal barrier preventing the party from contesting".

Pentagon frees detainee held at Gitmo since Day 1

The Pentagon on Monday repatriated a Tunisian detainee who was brought to the US military prison at Guantanamo Bay, the day it opened, was never charged at the war court and was approved for transfer more than a decade ago. Ridah Bin Saleh al Yazidi, 59, spent years languishing at the wartime prison because deals could not be made to repatriate or resettle him.

He was airlifted from the base in a secret operation that was completed 11 months after the defence department notified Congress that it had reached an agreement to return him to Tunisian custody, the Pentagon said. It offered no details on the security arrangements surrounding his return.

Yazidi's transfer was the fourth in two weeks in a late Biden administration push to reduce the detainee population at the prison, which held 40 prisoners when President Biden took office. His departure left 26 detainees, 14 of

them approved for transfer to other countries with diplomatic and security arrangements. Another nine are in pretrial proceedings or convicted of war crimes. The prison enters its 24th year in Jan.

Yazidi was the last of a dozen Tunisians once held at the prison, most of whom were captured in Afghanistan or Pakistan after the Sept 11 attacks and brought to Guantanamo Bay as terrorism suspects. He was sent to the wartime prison the day it opened, Jan 11, 2002, and so was photographed kneeling anonymously in a crude open-air compound at Guantanamo's Camp X-Ray in one of the detention operation's most iconic photos.

With his transfer, only one other person among those original 20 detainees is still held at the prison: Ali Hamza al-Bahlul, who is serving a life sentence for conspiring to commit war crimes as a media adviser to Osama bin Laden. NYT

DAILY PLANET



People wearing 1900 style costumes take part in the traditional last swim of the year off the beach at Cabourg, France, on Tuesday

Jolie and Pitt reach divorce settlement after 8 yrs of dispute



Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt, who got married in 2014, have reached a divorce settlement, ending one of the longest and most contentious divorces in Hollywood history. "More than eight years ago, Angelina filed for divorce from Mr. Pitt," Jolie's attorney said. "Angelina is exhausted, but she is relieved this one part is over." Jolie and Pitt signed off on a default declaration filed in Los Angeles Superior Court on Monday. It says they give up the right to any future spousal financial support, but gives no other details. Jolie, 49, and Pitt, 61, were among Hollywood's most prominent pairings for 12 years, two of them as a married couple. The Oscar winners have six children together. Jolie filed for divorce in 2016, after a private jet flight from Europe during which she said Pitt physically abused her and their children. The FBI and

child services officials probed Pitt's actions on the flight but did not bring charges. A judge in 2019 declared Jolie and Pitt divorced, but the splitting of assets and child custody needed to be separately settled. Soon after, a private judge that the two had hired to handle the case reached a decision that included equal custody of their children, but Jolie filed to have him removed from the case over conflict of interest. The couple had to start the process over. The use of the private judge has kept the details of the divorce largely under wraps. Some disputes, however, have been revealed through a separate lawsuit filed by Pitt over Jolie's sale of her half of a French winery they owned. The battle over winery would go on. AP

AROUND THE WORLD

"The Tale of Genji", written in early 11th century by Japanese noblewoman Murasaki Shikibu, is one of history's first novels, the first by a woman to have won recognition across world & in Japan today has a stature like that of Shakespeare in England

The Times of India is the world's largest-selling English daily

S Korean court issues warrants to detain Yoon, search his office

Seoul: A South Korean court issued warrants on Tuesday to detain impeached President Yoon Suk Yeol and search his office and residence over allegations of rebellion in connection with his short-lived declaration of martial law. It's the first time a warrant has been issued to detain a sitting South Korean president. But experts say there is little chance of detention or searches unless Yoon is formally removed from office. The Constitutional Court is to determine whether to dismiss Yoon as president or reinstate him.

The Seoul Western District Court issued warrants to detain Yoon and to search the presidential office and residence in central Seoul, according to a statement from the committee leading a joint probe with police and military authorities. The agency says it's been investigating whether Yoon's Dec 3 declaration amounted to rebellion.

Under South Korean law, the leader of a rebellion can face the death penalty or life imprisonment if convicted. Yoon's presidential immunity does not extend to allegations of rebellion or treason. Experts said Yoon is likely to ignore the warrants. He's already dodged repeated requests by investigators to appear for questioning. AP

WORLD RINGS IN HAPPY 2025!



SOUND AND LIGHT SHOW: The world has begun welcoming 2025 with spectacular light shows. Countries in the South Pacific Ocean are the first to ring in the New Year, with midnight in New Zealand striking 18 hours before the ball drop in Times Square in New York. (above clockwise) Sydney, Hong Kong and Bangkok

On NYE, Puerto Rico in dark as grid collapses

A major power outage plunged much of Puerto Rico into darkness on Tuesday, with the US island territory's electric utility saying restoration could take up to two days. The "island-wide blackout" began at 5.30am (local time), Luma Energy, which manages power transmission on the island, said. Preliminary findings pointed to a fault on an underground cable as the cause, although the probe was still underway. The outage comes just hours ahead of New Year's Eve celebrations. Luma added in a subsequent statement that service had been restored in some areas, including a medical center and hospital in the capital San Juan. Around noon, about 15% of Luma's clients had service. AFP

How Musk has planted himself almost literally at Trump's doorstep

Maggie Haberman, Jonathan Swan and Ryan Mac

Elon Musk plays many roles with President-elect Donald Trump. He is Trump's most important donor; most influential social media promoter and a key adviser. For most of the time since Election Day, he has also been Trump's tenant.

Musk has been using one of the cottages available for rent on Trump's property at Mar-a-Lago, the former Marjorie Merriweather Post home in Florida that Trump converted into a members-only club and hotel in 1990s, according to two sources.

The cottage where he has been staying, named Banyan, is several hundred feet away from the main house, according to a person who knows the property.

Staying right on the grounds has helped give Musk with easy access to Trump. He can drop in on Trump's dinners, such as one he had recently with Musk's rival, Amazon founder Jeff Bezos. Musk, who spent more than a quarter of a billion dollars in the final months of this year's election cycle to help elect Trump, has attended personnel meetings in the Mar-a-Lago Teahouse, sat in on calls with foreign leaders and spent



DON'S TENANT: For much of the period since Election Day, Musk has been staying at a \$2,000-a-night cottage at Mar-a-Lago, giving him easy access to the president-elect

hours with Trump in his office. Musk is not the only member of the president-elect's inner circle who has been bunking on Trump's property. Vice

President-elect JD Vance has stayed in one of the cottages at Mar-a-Lago when he has been in Palm Beach and has been there frequently during the transition, a person with knowledge of his stays said. And others are said to have used cottages since Election Day. But few have been as omnipresent as Musk.

Trump has bragged to people that Musk — the world's richest man — is "renting" one of the residential spaces at Mar-a-Lago. It is unclear how much Musk will end up paying for the cottage, which historically has rented for at least \$2,000 a night. Officials at the club do

not typically bill guests until the end of stay, leaving open the possibility that Trump will choose not to charge Musk, or to reduce the size of his bill. But Trump is not known to shy away from income opportunities.

Musk moved into the cottage around Election Day and watched the returns at Mar-a-Lago with Trump. He left the property around Christmas and has been expected to return in the coming days. On Friday, in a post on Truth Social that seemed intended as a private communication to Musk, Trump wrote: "Where are you? When are you coming

to the 'Center of the Universe,' Mar-a-Lago. Bill Gates asked to come, tonight. We miss you and x! New Year's Eve is going to be AMAZING!!! DJT."

Some of Trump's advisers have privately griped about how much influence Musk has had on the transition and how inseparable he is from the president-elect. Musk is unlikely to have such unfettered physical access to Trump after the president-elect is sworn in on Jan. 20 in Washington. Coming and going in the West Wing is more onerous than at Trump's private clubs, as is access to the White House residence. NYT

With 2025 upon us we asked senior tech execs what they thought were some important tech trends to watch out for. Most of them, predictably, spoke of the growing dominance of AI in every aspect of our lives. From custom AI agents and AI PCs to more linguistically diverse platforms, AI is set to dominate the tech scene for another year, at least.

AI WILL DOMINATE

AI on the edge is coming

One of the most exciting areas of progress in the field of artificial intelligence is edge AI, where devices and IoT gadgets can handle AI tasks right where they are—locally. With hardware like NPUs becoming a standard feature in devices, real-time applications such as language translation and advanced vision processing are becoming more efficient and accessible. This evolution not only improves performance but also enables businesses of all sizes to leverage AI effectively. Companies like us are driving advancements in edge AI by equipping developers with tools and platforms to address localised and complex challenges. In India, the pace of digital transformation is picking up quickly, highlighting the importance of adopting AI in timely and effective way. With its unique demographics and dynamic markets, India has the potential to become a global leader in AI innovation.



Krishna Rangasayee
CEO AND
FOUNDER,
SIMA.AI

2025



The Year of Synthetic Data and Quantum Innovation

As organisations worldwide embrace the transformative power of AI, 2025 will mark a pivotal year defined by five interconnected trends that will reshape industries and amplify innovation. The first is Models as Products: The shift toward deploying pre-trained, specialised models will redefine AI adoption. Beyond generative AI, organisations will rely on deterministic models for fraud detection, optimisation, and more, allowing for scalable and actionable insights. The second trend is the Synthetic data revolution. Synthetic data will become indispensable in addressing privacy concerns and enhancing AI performance. Industries like healthcare and finance will see up to 50% improvements in model accuracy, thanks to synthetic data's ability to simulate rare events and refine predictive capabilities. The third trend relates to AI governance. As AI decision-making permeates critical areas like lending and insurance, organisations will prioritise oversight, platform compliance, and ethical practices. Equally important will be AI cloud cost optimisation. With the growing deployment of AI at scale, managing cloud expenses will take centre stage. Organisations will explore innovative strategies to balance performance with cost-efficiency, ensuring sustainable AI operations. On top of that, Quantum advancements will unlock new frontiers in AI and data analysis. Industries will begin leveraging quantum capabilities to tackle complex problems, setting the stage for breakthroughs in optimization and computational speed.

Bryan Harris | CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER, SAS



Human language will become less critical to Agentic AI proliferation

As developers continue to train AI models on increasingly vast amounts of content, the progress of AI will soon exceed the constraints of human language. This creates two significant challenges that AI solution providers must address in the coming year. Firstly, I foresee that the conflict between content creators and model developers will reach a breaking point in 2025. Large AI developers and data providers are already facing pushback from artists, musicians, and consumers as they use more



Prince Kohli | CTO, AUTOMATION ANYWHERE

and more human-created content to train their models. The demand for AI model training data is enormous, with one estimate suggesting that by 2028, developers will require all available internet text to train their models. As AI's demand for human-generated data grows, the value of this data and the influence of those who control it will rise significantly. Secondly, I believe this issue along with other language-related constraints will push AI models to evolve beyond human language by 2025.

UPI 3.0 and AI for Bharat

UPI 3.0 is poised to revolutionise digital transactions in India by introducing features that enhance user convenience and financial inclusion. Key innovations include conversational payments, enabling users to conduct transactions through voice interactions with AI-powered systems, initially supporting Hindi and English. This advancement aims to make digital payments more intuitive and accessible to a broader user base. Additionally, the integration of credit lines allows users to access pre-sanctioned credit directly through their UPI apps, providing greater financial flexibility. This feature facilitates seamless borrowing and spending without the need for separate credit applications. The rise of Gen AI models tailored for India's diverse linguistic landscape is also set to democratise technology access. Initiatives like Sarvam AI offer low-cost high-quality models across 10 major Indian languages alongside English. Similarly, the Indian government's Bhashini project aims to develop a National Public Digital Platform for languages, facilitating real-time translation and interpretation in various Indian languages. These advancements are expected to bridge linguistic divides, enabling more Indians to leverage AI in their native languages.

Rohan Sachdev | PARTNER AND NATIONAL LEADER, CONSULTING SERVICES, EY INDIA



Small models will dominate

2024 has been a transformative year for AI innovation and this momentum will continue in 2025. India will continue to democratise AI, as we develop cost-effective Small Language Models (SLMs) and multilingual models to cater to the linguistic diversity of the country. SLMs will see increased adoption in 2025 by enterprises across all major sectors, which will benefit from its increased efficiency, low compute and personalisation nature. Emerging technology capabilities like multi-modal input and output, deeper reasoning and processing rich context will go mainstream and pave the way for an Agentic world where AI agents can act on our behalf across our life, work and organisations.

Rajiv Kumar | MD AND PRESIDENT, MICROSOFT INDIA DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Expect to see custom AI solutions

As we look ahead to 2025, AI isn't just an enabler anymore—it's becoming the backbone of how industries innovate, scale, and solve their most complex challenges. We're entering an exciting phase where AI is evolving from being assistive to becoming truly intelligent, with autonomous agents capable of making decisions and orchestrating entire ecosystems. Custom AI in particular is emerging as a transformative force in 2025, allowing organizations to design AI solutions tailored to their specific needs. By leveraging domain-specific data and advanced model customization, businesses can develop AI applications that address unique challenges, from personalized customer experiences to industry-specific innovations. Industry analysis underscores the growing demand for differentiated AI solutions as enterprises seek to differentiate themselves in competitive markets. Custom AI empowers organizations to extract maximum value from their data while ensuring alignment with business goals. It enables organizations to gain a strategic edge by solving niche problems with precision and scalability. This trend is set to democratize AI innovation, making it accessible across industries and geographies.

Sindhu Gangadharan | MD, SAP
LABS INDIA; CHAIRPERSON, NASSCOM



AI specific servers will be in demand

2024 has seen a stronger demand for AI servers, fuelled by the increased adoption of AI and generative AI tools. As these servers consume significantly more power and generate more heat than standard servers, we can expect to see increased demand for AI-specific infrastructure in the coming year. These servers are designed to handle the unique demands of AI workloads, with optimized storage and memory to enable high-speed server-to-server communication, scalable storage systems, and efficient power management. The challenge for businesses will be on how they manage the high implementation and maintenance costs of this infrastructure. Employing a hybrid cloud strategy, combining on-premises infrastructure with cloud-based AI services can help reduce these costs while providing scalability. In 2025, we will also see increased scrutiny on businesses to act in an environmentally sustainable manner, with some markets introducing legislation imposing tighter restrictions on the disclosure of climate risks. For data centres, the challenge will be balancing the need for innovation and scalability with its carbon footprint.

Amit Luthra | MANAGING DIRECTOR, ISG, LENOVO INDIA



Software and Hardware as a Service

In 2025, technology is changing at a pace never seen before, and SHaaS (Software and Hardware as a Service) is poised to revolutionise the way enterprises adopt and use technology. Emerging Generative AI platforms showcase the groundbreaking potential of this approach, enabling businesses to create, deploy, and scale solutions in a matter of minutes. What used to require years to innovate now becomes a weekly occurrence, so the pace of new, creative, disruptive technologies is unprecedented. Autonomous solutions for software, powered by AI, IoT, blockchain, and mixed reality, shall be the future—showing dynamic, customised service, which goes beyond the very concept of SaaS itself. This trend brings the biggest challenge to the old players in the software space because it makes possible deployment of live, fully integrated solutions almost overnight. SHaaS is the next wave of innovation that can revolutionise and unlock the possibilities of any industry across the globe.

Piyush Somani | FOUNDER, CMD & CEO, ESDS SOFTWARE SOLUTION



AI PCs will continue to evolve

I believe we are truly at the intersection of multiple breakthroughs. In 2025, two key tech trends will stand out - the evolution of AI PCs and the rapid expansion of High-performance computing (HPC) in the cloud and at the edge. AI PCs represent a transformative shift from incremental upgrades to devices with predictive capabilities, adaptive interfaces, and on-device processing. These innovations deliver faster response times, improved data security, and the ability to handle complex tasks offline, reshaping everyday workflows. For instance, imagine a laptop that adjusts its performance based on your most used apps, streamlines tasks, extends battery life, and even provides real-time translations - all of this without connecting to the cloud. Meanwhile, AI workloads and machine learning will grow dramatically. The expansion of HPC with specialized accelerators will enable enterprises to manage increasing complexity, powering AI, simulations, and analytics at scale. Together, these trends are all part of a broader shift that's making cutting-edge tech more accessible and seamlessly integrating AI into devices, redefining how we work, connect, and innovate.

Vinay Sinha | CORPORATE VICE
PRESIDENT,
INDIA SALES,
AMD



Extended reality will finally be here

The usage of extended reality (XR) will increase. In this evolving landscape, multimodal AI will seamlessly integrate into real-world human interactions and navigation. Technology will become more intuitive and responsive to human needs including security and privacy, offering enterprises new opportunities to elevate customer experiences and empower employees. For example, spatial computing will augment customer service, buyer experiences, traveller experiences, patient-provider interactions, and remote work. XR and AI powered solutions for inspection and preventive maintenance will impact safety and environmental protection in addition to operational efficiency. We will also witness an increase in autonomous machines with over-the-air (OTA) updates. Autonomous industrial robots will proliferate, and Software Defined Medical Devices will evolve towards autonomous preventive maintenance and self-healing with minimal human intervention and down time.

Sandhya Arun | CTO, WIPRO



Datacentres will mushroom everywhere

As we look ahead to 2025, we at Intel believe that expanding data centre capacity is not just critical; it is non-negotiable to meet the demands of digital future. India contributes to approximately 20 percent of the world's data, yet most of it is stored and processed in servers overseas. By moving the storage and processing of this vast amounts of data within the nation's borders, we would not only be contributing to security, compliance, and good governance, but this would also significantly reduce the latency of training localised AI models using this data. This would also yield an overall cost-effective model, as transferring large volumes of data to overseas cloud servers will incur heavy, recurring costs due to subscriptions. With the growth in localised data centres, we can expect to come down further through economies of scale as more data centres come online. The tech ecosystem needs to focus on reimagining the way data centres are built while focusing on cost, latency, and security aspects in addition to addressing some of the environmental challenges like water and power. Investing in local data centres—akin to building highways or other infrastructure, is critical to India's future as the nation aims to be an AI powerhouse.


Santhosh Viswanathan | VP AND MD, INTEL, INDIA REGION



SaaS will transform to service-as-a-software

In 2025, the biggest innovations will be around agentic AI. It will force companies that sell software-as-a-service to offer service-as-a-software. Take a company like Salesforce. Today, their revenue comes from per seat sales. But with AI and automation, if the number of people their customers have reduces, so will their revenue. So now, they are moving towards selling AI agents. They'll tell their customers, instead of your salesperson doing it, my AI agent will do it. And the pricing could be outcome based, say, the number of tickets the AI agents close.

Pari Natarajan | CEO, ZINNOV



A thought for today
The world changes, and all that once was strong now proves unsure
TOLKIEIN

Keep Calm, It'll Pass

2025 is the quarter mark of this century. Big things are in ferment, just like a century back. And they will all settle down, again, just like before

A year turns, and brings us a full quarter into the 21st century. We are pitched into chaos and unpredictability – democracies and great powers seem to be foundering, wars have erupted around the world. Whether it's a migrant in the city or a white-collar worker worrying about their job, a student facing bleak prospects, a person struggling with generational change, or someone worried about abstractions like democracy and justice, there's a sense that the sky is always falling on our heads. But zoom out, and 2025 doesn't seem all that different from 1925.

A century ago, similar tectonic shifts scrambled people's lives. There was great progress, wealth and inequality. Technology had dizzying effects. If it's the digital frontier today, with AI and biotech innovations, it was the cascading effect of steamships, railways, electrification and telecommunications that shook up social patterns then. The Spanish Flu pandemic of 1920 mirrored the Covid pandemic of 2020. If Indians then were depleted by empire, the West was

witnessing the roaring 20s of excess and deprivation. Then and now, the gains from technological progress and globalisation were unevenly spread. Massive fortunes were made from colonial plunder, monopolies were based on resource extraction, industrial innovation and infrastructure. Despite the First World War, the world retreated from trade and cooperation, to seize short-term advantage. Workers feared being replaced by machines, as the stock market soared. Social safety nets, fair regulation and multilateral global institutions were years away.

Meanwhile in India, the freedom movement was in ferment, new mobilisations and coalitions were building, from the Khilafat cause to the Non-Cooperation Movement. Radical politics was building everywhere in the world, from the right and left, just as today. There was a yearning for strongmen, and for solidarity. History doesn't repeat itself, but it certainly seems to rhyme.

This is not to say that events don't matter, or that we're doomed to repeat our traumas. It is not a call to disengagement. But in times of historic tumult, it helps to know that we've seen and survived all this before. Sometimes, small things appear big when you're too close to them. It's also a reminder that a revolution is only a turn of the wheel. Reconstruction follows disaster, war and peace are both inevitable. The Polish poet Wislawa Szymborska wrote about mundane life-sustaining work even in the middle of war, someone pushing the rubble off the road so the corpse-filled wagons can pass, and so on. A generation that lived in conflict gives way to another that remembers little, and another that remembers nothing. "In the grass that has overgrown/ causes and effects,/ someone must be stretched out/ blade of grass in his mouth/ gazing at the clouds." And so it is, in good times or bad.

10 Things We Really Want Gone This Year

Gassy Judgments | Leave alone Latin, sometimes even their English is Greek to us. SC despairs over 'impenetrable' court verdicts – it recently said an order may be returned to HC to be rewritten, because it couldn't make out a word, so how could appeals proceed? Junk centuries-old style of bad English and incomprehensible gobbledegook. Judges should take law-language lessons, plus get tech help.

Drone-acharyas | Constant electioneering means countless, looning political speeches. At year's end, you recall none. Sound bites stay, rest is lost. MLK's *I Have a Dream* ran under 20 minutes, Nehru's *Tryst with Destiny* under 10 minutes. They had something to say, said it crisply, it's still being heard. Today's netas need to speak short to be listened long.

Weekly OTT Torture | Much-awaited second season of *Squid Games* dropped all seven episodes at the same time. This is much more humane than *Only Murders in the Building* freeing only one episode a week. Showmakers should end the gimmicky wait times. Look, real life gives us anxiety enough. Additional stress of waiting to find out who oppressed whom in reel worlds is plain sadistic.

Reels Ruling Monuments | Sanchi stupa to Khajuraho, everywhere you go to see what Indians of the past were up to, those of today drag you willy-nilly into their reels and shorts. Someone shooting a bridal film, someone else their jhola-joota collab, one visit and you may end up in 5-50 different background jobs. This is a grave human rights violation.

Holiday Photo-dumps | Other people's vacation pictures are obnoxious. To those of us stuck at home, your travel photo-dump looks like a brag and a drag. You're not bringing the wonders of the world to your social media friends. You're just replicating a consumer experience like everybody else. So stop with the utterly unoriginal photo-series. They're no fun: except, of course, when we do it.

Wedding Jams | Yes, it's your big day. But why should it be my bad day? The Big Fat Indian Wedding's biggest turn-off is the traffic jams that come with it. Baraat to naagin dance with gridlock. Crores are spent on a themed wedding but zero on parking for the 2,000-plus guest list. BFIWs are lovely for the economy but would be lovelier without miles-long snarl-ups.

Blinding Lights | It used to be mandatory to paint the top third of your headlight black, and 'Use Dipper At Night'. Now, LED guns pass for headlights. They are terrible in daytime and torture at night. Complaints have been raised in UK, US, Canada, and given our road conditions a blinded driver may kill or get killed. Let's go back to halogens, please.

Road Hogs | To the thinking man, or woman, a car weighing and hogging as much space as two, burning a litre of fuel every 7-8km, riding on tyres fit for trucks, breaking pedestrians' ribs with its high grille, and tending to flip over at sharp bends due to its high centre of gravity would not make sense. So the SUV said, "They don't think, therefore I am."

Fake Posh | Don't trust builders who stick French or Mediterranean-sounding names on apartments. Collonges-la-Rouge in Ludhiana, Billancourt in Bulandshahr should set alarm bells ringing. If it starts with 'la', is it a ticket to la-land? Lavasa was a coined word, utterly meaningless, and look where it led. If your apartment in 'Les Bregeres' isn't ready in 15 years, how will you tell cops?

Phone-y Upgrades | Unless you're a collector, you won't touch the first iPhone from 17 years ago. Five-year-old phone? Nah, 4 gigs of RAM is no good. What do we need more and more for? Blame heavier OSes and apps. Everything's jazzier. A donkey can't bear an elephant's freight. Your old phone dies under modernity's weight. Spare us the upgrades.

REIMAGINE THERE'S NO...

For the first day of the new year, we decided to be wildly optimistic. What might our world look like if we smartly subverted conventions? Our suggestions

Make Democracy Great Again
Democracy's lost some of its meaning, pundits say. True that, but it isn't about fixing tiresome labels on nations. It's about asking just why isn't democracy any longer living up to the demo version. Imagine a world where organised people matter more than organised money. Where the majority's heard, sure, but the minority's not out-shouted or scapegoated. Where We The People are participants, not Mute Masses awed by authority. Public health, education, infra are the basis of a common flourishing, because govts aren't political creatures but service providers. Remind them.

World That's Truly Ordered
Trump wants Panama Canal and Greenland, and tit-for-tat tariffs. His 'Make America Great Again' campaign is unabashedly mercantilist, but 'Made in America' will come apart because all its bits and parts originate from all over the world. A transactional approach to international relations is self-defeating. We need more of the old collaborative spirit, minus meddling arm-twisting hegemony. That's what the UNs, WHO were to do, right? Speak for the world. Multilateralism sadly has agendas much decided by hegemony. A world order with double standards is no order at all. If they're prissy about wars and atrocities, it's for the rest of the world to make international organisations matter again.

Don't Let Sams Run Away With It
Make AI work for you, not get used by it. Only way to beat fear of AI is to face it. Can it be deployed to manipulate decisions, behaviour? Sure it can. Can it help detect cancers or Alzheimer's earlier than traditional methods? That's the idea. Can it help in fraud detection, drug discovery, climate modelling? Yes, yes & many more yesses. Accountability has to be the big push, and not letting profit-driven superstars like OpenAI be sole arbiters of tech's development. Only regulation can balance innovation and social risks. That calls for global consensus (elusive) on guardrails AI needs.

It's My Life, Big Govt & Big Tech...
It's hard to fall asleep under a stranger's gaze, or work with someone watching over your shoulder. That's why privacy is a right we all deserve, but with smartphones and digital payments, govt and Big Tech know us inside out. That's got to change. For starters, smartphones – biggest information siphon of all – and their operating systems shouldn't have lopsided user agreements. Nor should all and sundry apps be able to access non-essential phone functions. Govts, set an example by not being cavalier about citizen data.

...And It's My Information Too
There's a reason insider trading is banned – insiders always know more than outsiders. But tech has taken info-asymmetry to a different level. This is a problem. Your bank, employer and govt know more about you than you do about them. Increasing transparency offers a way out. We must know how and where our data's used, and what institutions are up to. Fat chance? Well, we're the new oil – a walking datamine. How to protect ourselves? Penalty for underhand business models – for example, insurers accessing your fitness band data – is the easy part. Tougher to get govt to be transparent on how it uses our data.

New News: Facts, Fun & Smart Figures
News isn't entertainment, but what engages the reader. What's happening in Ukraine, Gaza or among Maharashtra's onion farmers is hard facts. Problems arise when facts are coloured and shared. Also, news must be fun again. And it needs more perspective on bad news. More people get killed by Alzheimer's than by murderers. So, why make every gory murder a Page 1 splash? News isn't

a no-context mind-numbing stream of content. Break-through science is fun news! Meaningful climate action is great news. News is what is meaningful, what has impact. Reclaim news.

Teaching What Kids & Us Need
School and college are meant to stretch our minds, prepare us for the work of our society. They're meant to ensure talent can break free of circumstance. Today, learning attainments are dismal. College is stratified, with a few oases of excellence in a desert of dead-ends. Intense competition makes most young people feel like failures. What if skills could match work? Everybody aims for tech and finance jobs, care work and manual work are undervalued. What

if, starting 2025, we could simply think of what society needs, and work backwards to fix schooling?

Forget History, Focus On Now
History has only produced ill-will and bloodshed, as this subcontinent knows. Having authoritative accounts of what happened doesn't stop political entrepreneurs from mangling the past for present gains. Why burden schoolkids with information about long-ago tyrannies, kings and wars? Being aware of millennia of human suffering does not avert any crisis. Teach them about everyday things they encounter in life – the history of blackboards, for example. Even loony right and loony left can't start street fights over blackboards. Tell kids, live in the now, make tomorrow better.

Your Faith Matters, Not Religion
Great evil and great good have been done in the name of religion. Here we still are, attacking others and presuming to protect god. In 2025, may better sense prevail over supposedly holy wars. When organised religion insists on absolute truth or obedience, when it justifies the means with the ends, and declares war on other faiths, it shatters lives. When it evokes awareness of the inter-relatedness of all beings, the oneness of existence, it is a source of good. As spiritual people across faiths know, when ego goes out, god comes in.

Govts Out Of Bedrooms Please
Young Indians are coming of age in a vastly different world than their parents, grandparents, great grandparents. So stop herding their relationships into yesteryear moulds, from *saat phere* to *qubool hai, qubool hai, qubool hai*. Sarkar and goondas, stop peering into their bedrooms. Staying single is great. Dating is great. Live-in couples don't need notarisation. Whether they be hetero or gay, their happiness is not hurting anyone so why should anyone be hurting them? Yup, happiness can end short of forever. Divorce is great too. As is a hot dating scene for the divorced.

Don't Bother Woman To Be Mother
To be a woman doesn't have to mean to be a mother. That's a choice. This is basic biology and fundamental rights. This remains true after marriage too. And of the number of children a woman has. She can be one and done. Yes, the Chinese calling single women 'leftover ladies' is not an uncommon stigma. Also yes, some netas are insisting women should have more babies, in national interest. But women must now be understood beyond biological tyrannies. Especially when men's reproductive freedoms are being reimaged via sperm donation.

Don't Just Buy Stuff 'Cuz You Can
Trash has reached Everest and the ocean floor, but there are other compelling reasons to reimagine consumption too. Compulsive buying is injurious to minds and finances. So, it's time we thought more about the consequences of our desires and purchases. For example, are biofuels good, what do they do to food prices? Embracing imperfection, whether it is black spots on tomatoes and apples (less pesticide used) or fraying watch straps and scuffed shoes, can curb resource use and waste. It also buys peace of mind.

Home Cooked, Not Factory Made
Our food chain is, literally, a toxic system defined by ultra-processed foods, and cultivation with harmful agrochemicals. What we eat is making us sick – obesity is flagged as a public-health emergency in UK. We've to snatch back our food from the clutches of agri-business conglomerates who influence both policy and research. Breaking this nexus will preserve crop diversity, soil health, sustainable farming, and animal husbandry. There's no bigger irony than organic farming & multigrain going elite. Take it to masses. Food as culture is a global phenom & home-cooked is not only the way to go but also the one thing fully in our control.

Retire Old Notions Of Getting Old
Sleep, Exercise & Nutrition (SEN) help us live better lives longer. But to make that happen, the world needs to redesign. Life as we've lived it is summarily 'snapped' at 60, often triggering stress that makes mincemeat of SEN goals. Policy geeks are still tweaking pension age, viewing the 'old' as a "cost". But companies & techies are smarter; hiring/ re-hiring 60-pluses to fill skill gaps, designing for this new cohort. Marketers see them as a spending force. Overhaul the Learn-Work-Retire model. Work in phases. Learn anytime. Retire? Whenever you're ready. Healthcare? That's what a lifelong paying of tax must deliver.

Embrace Boredom, It Can Spark Ideas
So much to-do, yet, everything's such a bore. But what is boredom? 'Whatever's boring' goes one definition – to each their own 'boring'. A 'longing without any particular object'. An 'absence of mood'. From boredom, it's said, rose the gods. As a solution to boredom, Pascal suggested, "find a god". Boredom's the mind left to itself, to ignite a eureka spark. Disengaged to the point of laziness – the pause, the lolling. Heidegger said, "philosophy's born in boredom's nothingness"; that boredom makes us "experience time as time". Fear not this nothingness. It's the cradle of creativity.

Make Jogo Bonito Again
Footballer X makes a run from the midfield, then a long ball to the left winger, who crosses the ball in, a scramble in front of goal follows, and a tall centre-forward somehow pokes the ball into the net. This sequence of play can be from anywhere: Liverpool to Sapporo. And it spells the death of the beautiful game. So, to begin with, Brazil, the home of beautiful football, must play like Brazil again. Brazilian players are getting Europeanised. Brazilian coaches are scared of art and beauty. Football is losing its soul. Best way? Nurture young Samba wizards at home, pay them more and dissuade them from going to Europe.

Calvin & Hobbes



Let 2025 Be When You Connect More To Live Better

Radhanath Swami

Every year, on the night of Dec 31st, we welcome the new year with excitement. We also bid farewell to the year gone by. Each year teaches us lessons, things that went well, the right choices and mistakes we made, relationships gained and lost, successes and failures, and much more. Many a time we desire to make resolutions for the new year. Resolutions are made and often forgotten. It is seen that few people stick to their resolutions for up to six months, and very few see them through to the end. Instead of repeating the usual patterns, adopting a new approach to the upcoming year can fill us with optimism. Let us focus on three simple aspects this year: Invest, Grow and Connect, IGC. Invest in meaningful relationships, grow in life through small yet consistent steps, and connect with Divinity. These simple ac-

tions can not only make our new year fulfilling but also impart a novel sense of joy. Relationships bring both joy and stress. Investing in relationships is important. Studies say about 80% of personal stress stems from them. The imbalance between what is given and what is expected often leads to disappointment. Technology helps us stay connected, but it has also made our relationships shallow. Endless scrolling often replaces moments that could have been spent with someone we care about. How many relationships are truly developed through excessive usage of social media? Sometimes, we become so engrossed by technology that we fondly converse with people all over the globe without caring for our next-door neighbour. Spending time with loved ones can fill life with deeper meaning. The year

ahead is full of opportunities to invest in personal relationships that can bring inner satisfaction. Rather than merely going through life, efforts could be made to grow through life. Growth happens quietly, in small steps. A part of our new year resolution could be to develop willingness to acknowledge our mistakes, to forgive and let go of trivial things that may often consume the mind. Life, much like a device, needs a source of power to function. Without connection to something higher, life can often seem worthless and purposeless. The Bhagwad Gita (5.29) mentions that the one who connects with the Supreme finds peace. Prayer, meditation, or even a simple moment of gratitude can fill our life with inner joy. These practices may be small, but their impact is lasting. They of-

fer clarity and fill our lives with a purpose. Connection with Divinity also helps us navigate through life's challenges in a dignified manner. The Gita (2.70) gives a beautiful analogy of a person who is connected with the Supreme Source. Since time immemorial, rivers have been pouring unlimited amounts of water into the ocean. Yet, the ocean doesn't overflow; it remains calm. Similarly, a person who takes the time to connect with God becomes peaceful like the ocean. He is not affected by the multitude of difficulties, adversities, heartbreaks, or betrayals that life brings forth. Let us welcome this new year with positivity. Let us be grateful for all that we have received. Let us strive to invest time in meaningful relationships, grow beyond our cocoons to become majestic birds soaring high in the sky. By connecting with God, may we attain eternal peace and happiness. The writer is spiritual guru, ISKCON

Sacredspace

For last year's words belong to last year's language And next year's words await another voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning.

TS Eliot

**40-YEAR-OLD LEBRON JAMES SAYS HE WANTS TO FINISH HIS CAREER WITH THE LAKERS****GOLF HALL OF FAMER LYDIA KO BECOMES A DAME IN NEW YEAR'S HONORS IN NEW ZEALAND**

In Indian cricket, sentimental retirements have often masked larger issues of selection & form. Superstars have usually extended playing careers and scripted their own exits. For India's captain, however, retirement talk is gathering steam ahead of the Sydney Test. For Kohli, too, holding on to his spot looks increasingly difficult with each failure. Only one may be left standing after the final Test of this tour

ROHIT, VIRAT & THE END OF THE LINE

TIMES IN AUSTRALIA

Partha.Bhaduri@timesofindia.com

Melbourne: Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli aren't cut from the same cloth, but their careers are definitely fraying at the edges at the same time.

With every predictable dismissal, the end is looming. It's not here yet. Maybe tomorrow. Or perhaps the day after. It must be an infuriating wait for these two declining stalwarts.

Rumours are swirling as the caravan prepares to enter Sydney for the last stop on the Border-Gavaskar Trophy tour. Perhaps captain Rohit, the lesser of the two Test batsmen, will have his head on the chopping block first. If India don't make the World Test Championship final, Sydney, it is being presumed, could be Rohit's final port of call, a last chance to sign off with a hurrah.

Kohli's may be a longer wait. A modern Test great, he still has time if he so chooses. Kohli still looks the part in patches, though the mind seems scrambled. It's getting easier and easier for opposition bowlers to plan his dismissals. Or, perhaps, there will be redemption round the corner, a Steve Smith-like turnaround, and a few more great knocks to add to the lore? The temptation to linger on is irresistible.

Of course, a Rohit retirement now would be extremely convenient for the

Ajit Agarkar-led selection committee. Celebrity worship and brand recognition is so deeply entrenched in Indian cricket's cloak-and-dagger management style that coaches and selectors struggle to make the tough calls.

Even now, with the series on the line, the chatter — no doubt fuelled by whispers from within the machine — is always about 'retirement', never about performance. Indian cricket's super stars, apart from one or two exceptions, have never shared a healthy relationship with being dropped, or with the dreaded 'R' word.

For selectors, too, 'retirement' makes it easier. The call appears to be voluntary. Just look at the way Ravichandran Ashwin bid goodbye in Brisbane.

The talk should instead be about holding on to one's spot. Retirement, irrespective of age, is a personal thing and not the issue here. If a player doesn't perform, he cannot keep his place. Great players get a longer rope, but it still runs out at some point. What he subsequently decides to do with his playing career — retire or keep playing — is his own call to make. Whether to pick him or not is the call of the selectors and the coach, if he has a say in such matters.

Unfortunately, that isn't how Indian

cricket, or even its rabid fans, function. There are two ways to look at the Rohit problem which has dogged the team since the pink-ball Test in Adelaide. Going by performance benchmarks alone, his spot in the playing XI in Sydney shouldn't be a guarantee, even if he is the captain or it turns out to be his last Test with the Indian team. Ashwin, after all, didn't play in Brisbane.

Rohit's problem isn't limited to Australian soil. He averages 24.76 from 26 innings in 2024. This includes two hundreds and two half-centuries. In India's last five defeats, he averages 11.20 from 10 innings. His last 11 Test innings have brought him returns of 2 and 52, 0 and 8, 18 and 11 (all vs New Zealand at home), 3, 6, 10, 3, 9 (all in Australia on this tour).

Even as captain, his overseas record is middling. He has led in eight overseas Tests, losing four, winning two and drawing two. In these Tests, with the bat Rohit averages 29.92, which includes that magnificent 127 at the Oval. Before arriving here, India were whitewashed at home by New Zealand, an unthinkable blow. India have now lost five Tests under Rohit this season, equalling Sachin Tendulkar's record from 1999-2000.

Numbers, though, aren't everything

when it comes to batsmen of pedigree. Rohit just hasn't looked like his old self out there in the middle. In Adelaide he took a blow for the team, shifting to the middle order from his regular opening slot since KL Rahul and Yashasvi Jaiswal had just engineered a Test win in Perth along with Jasprit Bumrah.

The move didn't work and at the MCG he batted better after returning as opener, though the runs still didn't come. In the first innings he was caught in two minds playing his favourite pull shot. In the second he stood firm with a Test to save, and some of that laidback swagger looked like returning when he perished trying to play an attacking shot.

The other way is to treat it as an issue of form. While it's easy to gauge from the numbers — he has 164 runs in 15 innings this season, starting with the Tests against Bangladesh — that Rohit has had a horror run, it's been only four months or so, from Sept 19 (start of the Chennai Test against Bangladesh) till the end of the year. Some famous batters have been known to nurse poor form for far longer. So why talk of retirement and not form, even though Rohit is inching towards 38 years of age?

Either way you look at it, Rohit's selection in Sydney shouldn't be an auto-

matic choice. Kohli is in a similar bind but with a significant difference. With Kohli, the numbers make for equally dreary reading — he averages 24.52 this year — but he is at a superior level compared to Rohit as a Test batsman. The debate is different.

Plus, he has a century in Perth on this tour, the one time he got to bat against the older Kookaburra ball. He has shown self-restraint. The first-innings 36 from 86 balls at the MCG was a small but significant knock which earned praise from the likes of Smith.

Kohli's problem has been both technical — a tendency to reach out and drive at deliveries on the fifth or sixth stump line with askew footwork — and mental, motivated by the urgency to score some quick runs, since the runs aren't coming. The two are linked.

Kohli too, has been in a long, gradual decline since the first Covid-enforced break. There could still be some gas left in the tank. Kohli may still have a prolific season or two in him. However, on current form, does he deserve to keep his place? Who can replace him at No. 4 in the present squad? These are questions the team management has to answer.

As for Kohli, is this the end of the line? Sydney will provide.

VIRAT AND CONTEMPORARIES IN TESTS DURING THE LAST 5 YEARS (JAN 2020)

Batter	For	T	Inns	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	SR
Joe Root	Eng	63	114	11	5613	262	54.49	19	20	62.13
Kane Williamson	NZ	27	49	4	2897	251	64.37	12	6	52.30
Steven Smith	Aus	41	72	9	2798	200*	44.41	8	13	48.92
Virat Kohli	Ind	38	67	3	2005	186	31.32	3	9	49.26

CONTRIBUTION OF ROHIT AND VIRAT IN INDIA'S LAST 5 TEST DEFEATS

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	50	SR
Virat Kohli	5	10	0	152	70	15.20	1	47.94
Rohit Sharma	5	10	0	112	52	11.20	1	51.85

ROHIT AND VIRAT IN TESTS IN 2024

	T	I	NO	Runs	HS	Ave	100	50	SR
Rohit Sharma	14	26	1	619	131	24.76	2	2	63.03
Virat Kohli	10	19	2	417	100*	24.52	1	1	61.96

—Stats: Rajesh Kumar

OTHERS CAN BE AS BRAVE AS KONSTAS: WARNER

Melbourne: Lavishing praise on young Sam Konstas, former opener David Warner has urged Australia's senior players to adopt a similar aggressive approach when facing Indian pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah, who has been a dominant force with the ball in the ongoing series.

The 19-year-old Konstas played some stunning scoops and laps off Bumrah en route to a 65-ball 60 on his Test debut during the fourth Test at Melbourne, which the Aussies won by 184 runs on Monday.

"It was very special. People are going to criticise him as well. That's the nature of the beast, that's the way he is going to play," Warner said.

BUMRAH NAMED CAPTAIN OF CRICKET AUSTRALIA'S TEST TEAM OF YEAR, NO PLACE FOR OZ SKIPPER PAT CUMMINS

Melbourne: Jasprit Bumrah was on Tuesday recognised for his splendid performances in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy as Cricket Australia named the Indian pace spearhead as the captain of its Test team of the year, which also features Yashasvi Jaiswal. Meanwhile, Australia captain Pat Cummins failed to make it to the XI despite enjoying a good year with 37 wickets from nine matches at an average of 24.02 with two five-wicket hauls.

The squad: Yashasvi Jaiswal, Ben Duckett, Joe Root, Rachin Ravindra, Harry Brook, Kamindu Mendis, Alex Carey, Matt Henry, Jasprit Bumrah (captain), Josh Hazlewood, Keshav Maharaj. AGENCIES



McDonald optimistic about Starc's availability for Sydney Test

Melbourne: Australia head coach Andrew McDonald conceded that Mitchell Marsh has fallen short of expectations with the bat against India but remained optimistic about Mitchell Starc's availability for the pivotal fifth Test in Sydney.

"Any time you get through the game, it's always a good indicator that you've a chance at the next game," McDonald said after the hosts picked up memorable MCG victory. "It didn't stop him (Starc).

Clearly there was a little bit of discomfort early on in spells, but once he got warm it seemed as though he was pretty free. We'll see how everyone recovers.

Bowling last, it was a pretty attritional game, something that we're not used to in the last few years.

"Clearly Starc's carrying something of some description. We'll assess that. "But other than that, it looks as though we got through pretty unscathed, but [with a] short turnaround recovery is important, and we'll assess what the team looks like in Sydney based upon the surface, as we always do."

Should Starc be unavailable for the series decider at his home ground, McDonald expressed confidence in Jhye Richardson or Sean Abbott stepping

into to fill the void. Starc's fitness issues, compounded by his heavy workload alongside skipper Pat Cummins, have also drawn attention to the limited role of Mitch Marsh as a fifth bowler.

Across four Tests, Australia's fifth bowling option Marsh has bowled only 33 overs, a statistic that underscores his underutilization. Marsh's contributions with the bat have been similarly underwhelming, with just 73 runs in the series so far. However, McDonald defended the all-rounder. "He's in a good space. Would you like better performances? There's no doubt about that. Over four Test matches, he hasn't been able to deliver at the level he would like and we would like."

"He's up and about though. We just won a Test match. No, there's no concern. And I think people have probably been reading too much into that."

INDIAN CRICKET HAS DEPTH TO FILL ROHIT, VIRAT'S VOID: LEHMANN

Melbourne: Indian cricket has produced a generational superstar in Yashasvi Jaiswal and will remain in good health even when Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma decide to call time on their careers, feels former Australia head coach and two-time World Cup winner Darren Lehmann.

"Look whenever they decide to give it away and whatever happens in next few days they have been great players for India over a long period of time," Lehmann, a member of 1999 and 2003 ODI World Cup-winning teams said. "Now actually we see younger players starting to step up for India. There is so much depth, I won't worry too much. Whenever these two guys decide to retire, there are so many talented youngsters that Indian cricket will be in good stead."

GALLERY

Sidhu condemns Head's celebration as insult

New Delhi: Former Indian cricketer Navjot Singh Sidhu has strongly criticised Australian cricketer Travis Head for his controversial celebration after dismissing Rishabh Pant during the Boxing Day Test. Head celebrated by pointing one finger into a circularly shaped hand, a gesture that has sparked widespread debate. Sidhu posted on X: "Travis head's obnoxious behaviour during the course of the Melbourne test doesn't auger well for the gentleman's game..... sets the worst possible example when there are kids, women, young & old watching the game..... this caustic conduct did not insult an individual but a nation of 1.5 billion Indians..... stringent punishment that would serve a deterrent for the future generations needs to be slapped on him so that no one dares follow suit !!!"

Clarke feels SCG Test opportunity for Khawaja to retire: Former Australian captain Michael Clarke said that the final Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy between India and Australia could be a "great opportunity" for veteran opener Usman Khawaja to announce his retirement at his home venue.

Deepthi jumps to fifth spot in ICC ODI rankings: Deepthi Sharma climbed a spot to enter the top 5 in the latest ICC women's ODI ranking for bowlers following her match-winning performances in the recently-concluded series against the West Indies at home. AGENCIES

ACTION TODAY

CRICKET: NZ vs SL, 2nd T20, 5.45 am Thursday (Sony)
FOOTBALL: EPL, Brentford vs Arsenal, 1 am Thursday (Star)
HOCKEY: HIL, Bengal vs Gonasika, 8.15 pm (DD, Sony)

Caruana wins another race against Arjun

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

There is something about the race between Erigaisi Arjun and Fabiano Caruana.

The Indian had overtaken the former World Championship challenger from the USA in the FIDE rating list in Nov. He was also leading the 2024 FIDE circuit points before the Chennai GM tournament that month. But Caruana overtook him in the Dec rating list and also topped the circuit points chart, thanks to some tournaments in the USA and has sealed the one Candidates spot on offer this year. Seven more spots will be on offer in 2025.

WORLD BLITZ

To Arjun's credit, he has added 60-plus Elo points in the last 12 months, compared to Caruana's none. He had also swapped places with the American in the live rating list.

Their story took a similar turn on the first day of the two-day World Blitz Chess Championship in New York on Monday. No. 12 seed Erigaisi Arjun and No. 5 Caruana started with five wins in a row to be the only joint leaders at that stage. However, the next eight rounds saw Arjun log only two points and Caruana 4.5. Arjun thus finished joint sixth but overall 64th on tiebreak.

R Vaishali made amends for India as she qualified in the top spot in the women's section. She was the lone Indian to win the knockout berth across both sections.

The FIDE has changed the format of the blitz event (3mins+2sec) this year with only 13 and 11 Swiss League rounds in the Open and Women's sections, respectively. The top-eight players in each section were scheduled to



R Vaishali advanced to quarterfinal

play knockouts (quarters, semis and final) on Tuesday night. These were to be four-game mini matches.

No. 21 seed Vaishali (Elo 2359) started with four wins and remained undefeated for 9/5/11. She played two players above Elo 2400 for 1.5/2 against them. Clearly, the tougher tests lie ahead.

K Humpy, who had won the World rapid crown a couple of days ago, was unlucky to miss out on the knockout berth as she finished ninth with 8 points, the same as last qualifier Zhu Jiner. Humpy played all 11 decisive games. Her loss to compatriot Divya Deshmukh in the eighth round proved crucial in the end.

Eighteen year old Volodar Murzin of Russia, who had won the World Rapid, made it to the knockouts of the blitz. Magnus Carlsen, playing with jeans, also made the cut.

After being 7/7, Caruana probably took it easy and despite losing to Ian Nepomniachtchi in the 11th round, his 2.5 points in the last six games were enough to give him joint top spot with 9.5 points.

FBI issues warning to leagues about organized crime

The FBI is warning sports leagues about crime organizations targeting professional athletes following a string of burglaries at the homes of prominent NFL and NBA players.

The athletes' homes are targeted due to the perception they may contain high-end goods like designer handbags, jewellery, watches and cash, the FBI said in a Liaison Information Report obtained by ABC News.

The NFL and NBA already have issued security alerts to their players after the break-ins, some of which have come when players were away with their teams for road games. The NFL's alert says homes of professional athletes across multiple sports have become "increasingly targeted for burglaries by organized and skilled groups."

Luka Doncic of the Dallas Mavericks is the latest professional athlete whose home has been burglarized. Lara Beth Seager, the star guard's business manager, told multiple media outlets Saturday there was a break-in at Doncic's home. Seager said nobody was home at the time of the incident Friday night, and Doncic filed a police report. Star NFL quarterback Patrick Mahomes of Kansas City and Joe Burrow of Cincinnati, along with Chiefs tight end Travis Kelce, have been victims. AP

Mhatre youngest to score 150-plus in List A

Gaurav Gupta
@timesofindia.com

Mumbai opener Ayush Mhatre etched his name in the history books with a record-breaking performance when he became the youngest player to register a 150+ score in a List A game while starring in his side's 189-run win over Nagaland in a Vijay Hazare Trophy Group C match at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on Tuesday.

VIJAY HAZARE TROPHY

Aged all of just 17 years and 168 days, Mhatre smashed a 117-ball 181 to eclipse the record previously held by another Mumbai batsman, Yashasvi Jaiswal, who accumulated 203 against Jharkhand in the 2019 Vijay Hazare Trophy when he was enjoying his breakout domestic season aged just 17 years and 291 days old.

Feasting on a below par Nagaland attack, the Virar lad unleashed 15 fours and 11 sixes as he powered Mumbai to a mammoth total of 403 for seven in 50 overs. Mhatre stitched a 156-run opening stand alongside Angkrish Raghuvansi, who scored 56. The youngster was then involved in a 50-run stand with Siddhesh Lad (39), before allrounder and stand-in-captain Shardul Thakur (regular captain

Youngest batters to score 150+ in a List A innings

17y 168d: Ayush Mhatre (Mumbai)
17y 291d: Yashasvi Jaiswal (Mumbai)
19y 63d: Robin Uthappa (Karnataka)
19y 136d: Tom Prest (Hampshire)

Shreyas Iyer (was rested) showed his batting prowess in a fiery 28-ball 73 not out (strike rate 260.71). In reply for Nagaland, their 'pro' Jagadeesha Suchith scored a century (104, 97b, 7x4, 4x6), while Sudezhali Rupero laboured to a half-century (53 off 110 balls), as Nagaland finished at 214 for nine in 50 overs, with Thakur taking three for 17 in five overs.

Mhatre had earlier scored 78 off 82 balls against Karnataka.

Rahane to miss the league stage of VHT

Meanwhile, on a "break", senior batter Ajinkya Rahane will miss the league stage of the Vijay Hazare Trophy. Rahane hasn't featured in any of the games in the tournament so far and will miss the last two matches too. "Rahane has requested for a break but has assured us that he

Abhishek & Prabhsimran hit centuries

India batter Abhishek Sharma hammered a 96-ball 170 with as many as 22 fours and eight sixes, while opening partner Prabhsimran Singh made a 95-ball 125 as Punjab outshone Saurashtra in a run-fest in Ahmedabad.

At the Gujarat College Ground, nearly 800 runs were scored as Punjab, who made 424/5 batting first, bowled out Saurashtra for 367 to win by 57 runs.

Hyderabad end Karnataka's streak

Skipper Mayank Agarwal's third century in a row was not enough as Hyderabad pipped Karnataka by three wickets to end their four-match winning streak in a Group C contest in Ahmedabad. PTI

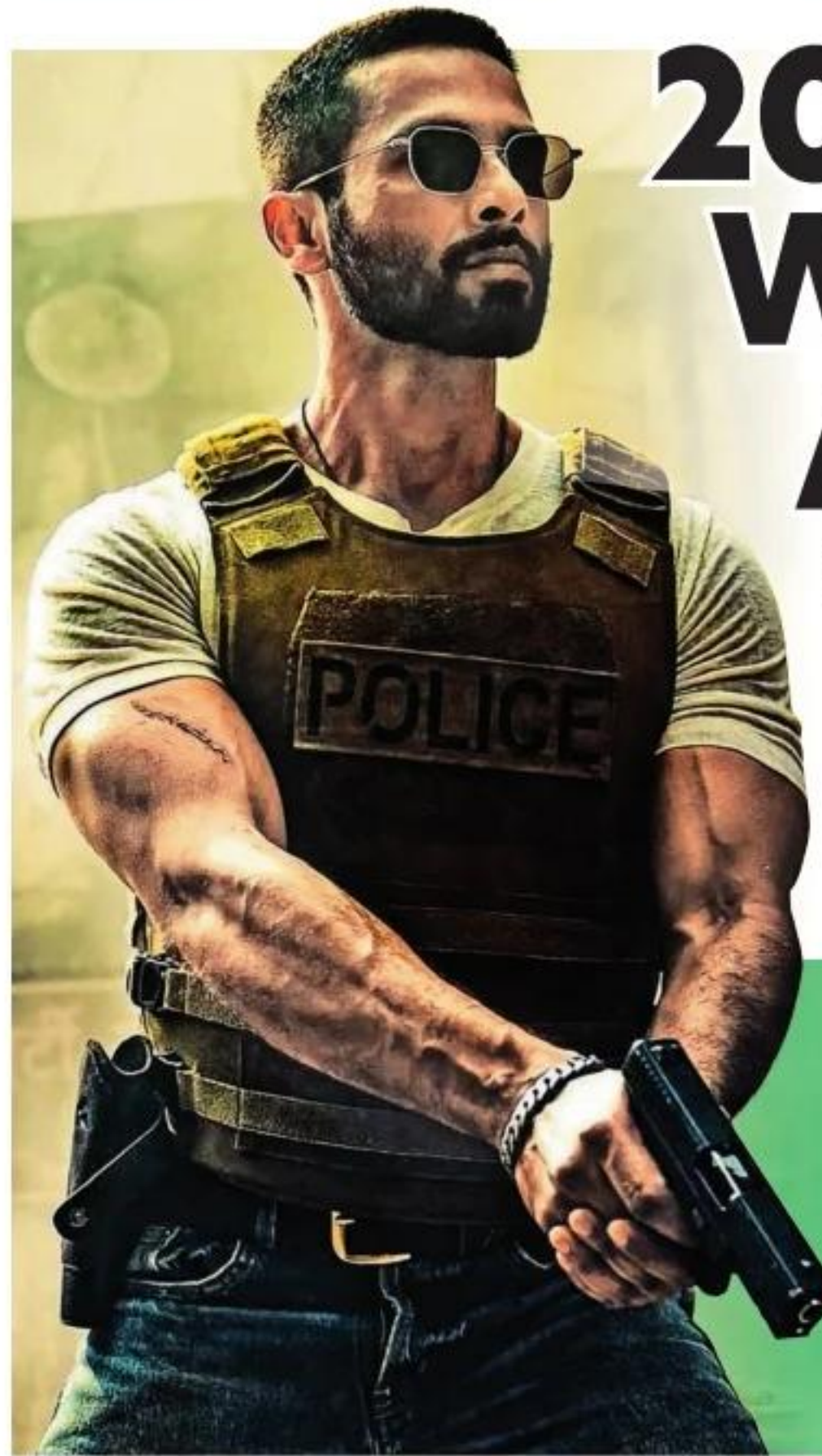
will be available for the knockouts," Mumbai Cricket Association secretary Abhay Hadap told TOI.

Having lost to Punjab and Karnataka, Mumbai are placed third in Group C with 12 points in five matches. With just two matches left now, they only have slim hopes of qualifying for the knockouts.



Happy Women's Wednesday

JASHN JEET KA



Devda
The audience will see a new on-screen pairing - Shahid Kapoor and Pooja Hegde - in this action thriller directed by Rosshan Andrews. Devda also stars Pavail Gulati, of Thappad fame, in a pivotal role.

2025 KICKS OFF WITH ACTION AND THRILL

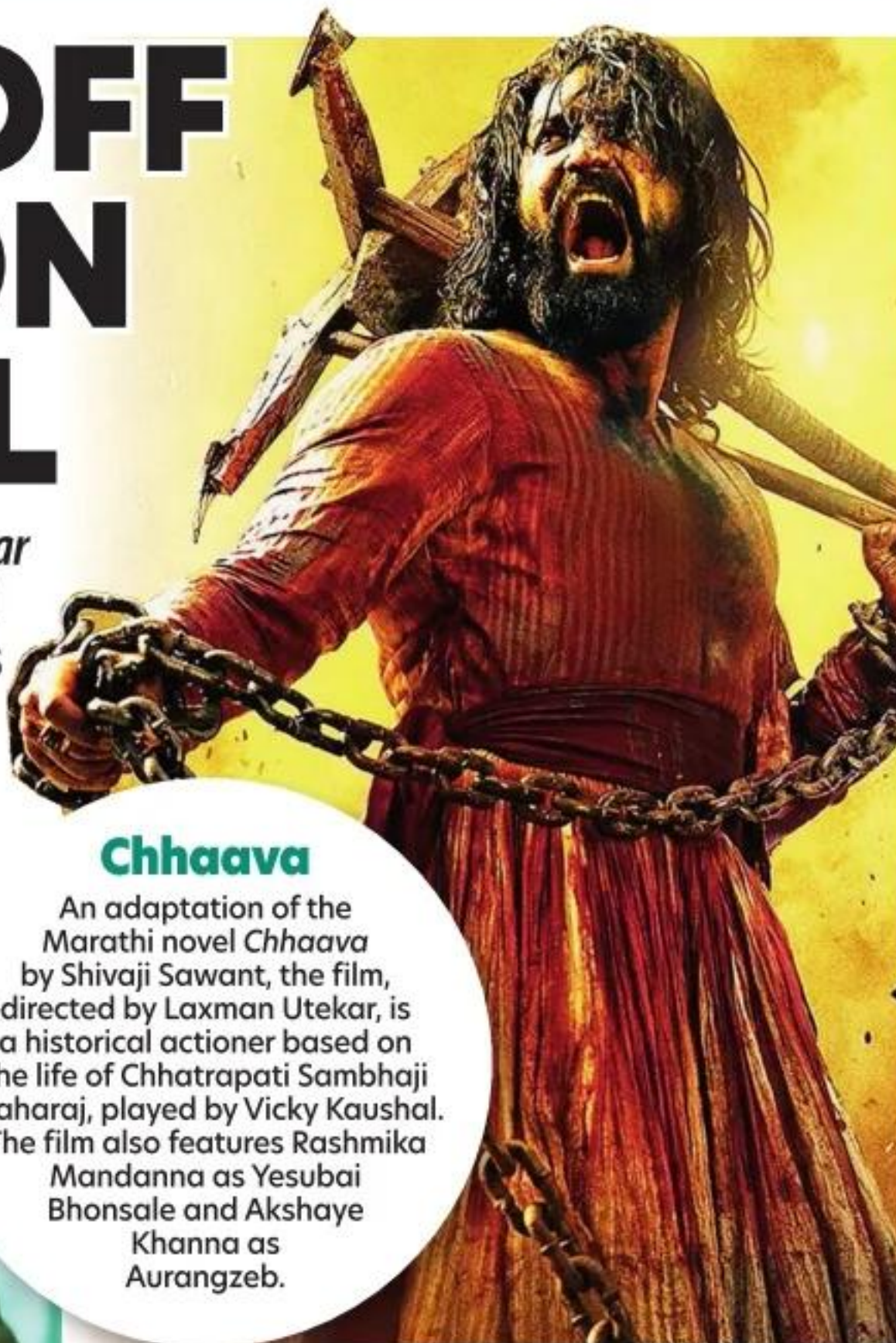
Hindi cinema is looking forward to a *dhamakedaar* 2025, with a mix of action, drama, comedy and thrillers set to explode on the big screen. Here's a quick look at the films that will woo the viewers in the first quarter of the year

Onkar Kulkarni



Sikandar

Bhai will be back on Eid this year with a big-ticket release. *Sikandar*, headlined by Salman Khan, is an action thriller directed by AR Murugadoss, also starring Rashmika Mandanna, Kajal Aggarwal, Sathyaraj, Sharman Joshi and Prateik Babbar.



Chhaava

An adaptation of the Marathi novel *Chhaava* by Shivaji Sawant, the film, directed by Laxman Utekar, is a historical actioner based on the life of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, played by Vicky Kaushal. The film also features Rashmika Mandanna as Yesubai Bhonsale and Akshaye Khanna as Aurangzeb.

'The first quarter of 2025 will be action-packed'

Akshaye Rath, exhibitor, says, "These films don't just have big stars, but are also being helmed by great filmmakers. The first quarter of 2025 will be absolutely action-packed for the box office. S Shankar is a massy filmmaker and is doing a film with Ram Charan and Kiara Advani. Dinesh Vijan (producer), who doesn't go wrong with storytelling, is backing *Sky Force* with Akshay Kumar. *Loveyapa*, starring Junaid Khan and Khushi Kapoor, is adapted from a Tamil hit. I feel *Chhaava* will do good business as it's a tale not known beyond Maharashtra. 2024 wasn't that great in sustaining the exhibition sector, with only a handful of films like *Pushpa 2*, *Street 2* and *Bhool Bhulaiyaa 3*, among a few others, doing great. We are hoping that 2025 proves to be a wonderful year."

CONTINUED ON P 6

Angie-Brad settle their divorce 8 years after filing



Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt have reached a divorce settlement, her lawyer told *Reuters* on Tuesday, bringing an end to one of Hollywood's most contentious and closely followed celebrity splits. Jolie filed for a divorce from Pitt, her husband of two years and romantic partner since 2005, eight years ago. "This is just one part of a long ongoing process that started eight years ago. Frankly, Angelina is exhausted, but she is

relieved this one part is over," Jolie's lawyer James Simon said in a statement, adding that a divorce settlement has been finalised, signed and filed with the court. Jolie had cited irreconcilable differences in the divorce filing. She subsequently sought full physical custody of their six children, with visitation rights for Pitt. Agencies



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खुशियों का
कुछ बांटने का, कुछ पाने का
कुछ कहने-सुनने का.
कुछ अपने लिए चुनने का
थोड़ी शॉपिंग का
ढेर सारी सेविंग्स का
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Tanya Maniktala runs forward, carrying hopes for 2025!

HERE'S TO HOPING THAT GREATER THINGS WILL HAPPEN IN 2025: TANYA



Riya Sharma

Kill actress Tanya Maniktala spent her New Year's Eve with her family in Delhi. Surrounded by the warmth of her loved ones, the actress shares that she is thankful for the year that has gone by and is looking forward to the year ahead. "I spent New Year's Eve with my family. It is our tradition that we all spend the new year together since my siblings aren't here. I think Delhi winters make it

even better. Delhi has warmth even in this freezing cold. You have the warmth of your family and your loved ones," says the Delhi girl. Tanya adds that she is grateful for 2024. "There was a lot of learning. I am grateful for the year and for the coming year, I don't know what to expect but I am hoping for good things, onwards and upwards. Here's to hoping greater things will happen for us this year," wishes the lead star of *A Suitable Boy*.

There was a lot of learning. I am grateful for 2024 and for the coming year, I don't know what to expect but I am hoping for good things, onwards and upwards

Coming to Delhi feels like coming home: Gurmeet Choudhary



Gurmeet Choudhary says, "I love visiting India Gate, catching up with old friends and indulging in *rajma* with *ragi roti*"

Riya Sharma

Coming back to Delhi is always special for Gurmeet Choudhary, who lived here during his modelling days. On his recent visit to the city, the actor took a stroll in Khan Market and ate *rajma* with *ragi roti*. "Coming here always feels like coming home. The love and warmth I receive from the people here is unmatched. Delhi has a unique vibe, it is energetic and full of life, and every visit reminds me of the incredible memories I've made here," shares Gurmeet. Gurmeet adds that the city reminds him of his journey – from his modelling days to how far he has come. "Delhi has grown beautifully, and so has my connection with it. Over the years, it has become one of my most frequent destinations for promotions and events. Personally, I love

I miss the simplicity of my time here during my modelling days. The charm of Delhi's streets, the lively culture, and my early struggles shaped me

its vibrant energy and how it makes me feel appreciated and loved. The city never fails to remind me of my journey and how far I've come," says the actor, who also has a list of his must-do's in the city whenever he is here. "I love visiting India Gate, catching up with old friends to relive cherished memories, indulging in *rajma* with *ragi roti* for a taste of nostalgia, exploring Delhi's streets to soak in its unique vibe, and interacting with fans," adds Gurmeet.

A DELIGHTFUL VISIT: NEHHA AT RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN



Nehha Pendse recently visited Rashtrapati Bhavan and shared pictures on her social media account. Along with the pictures, she wrote, "Delightful, enlightening tour of our Rashtrapati Bhavan (sic)"

After 19 years, I am ready for movies, says Mohit Malik

Mohit Malik is all set to make his Bollywood debut. The actor will be seen playing the antagonist in Abhishek Kapoor's film *Azaad*. Mohit, who has played a variety of roles, from an abusive husband to a gentle musician on TV, says after 19 years, he is finally ready to act in a film. "I have been working in showbiz for the past 19 years, but in the initial years, the goal was to earn money and run my home. Also, I wanted to hone my skills and then give movies a shot. Since the past few years, I have been feeling that it was time to branch out, and I am glad I bagged this offer."

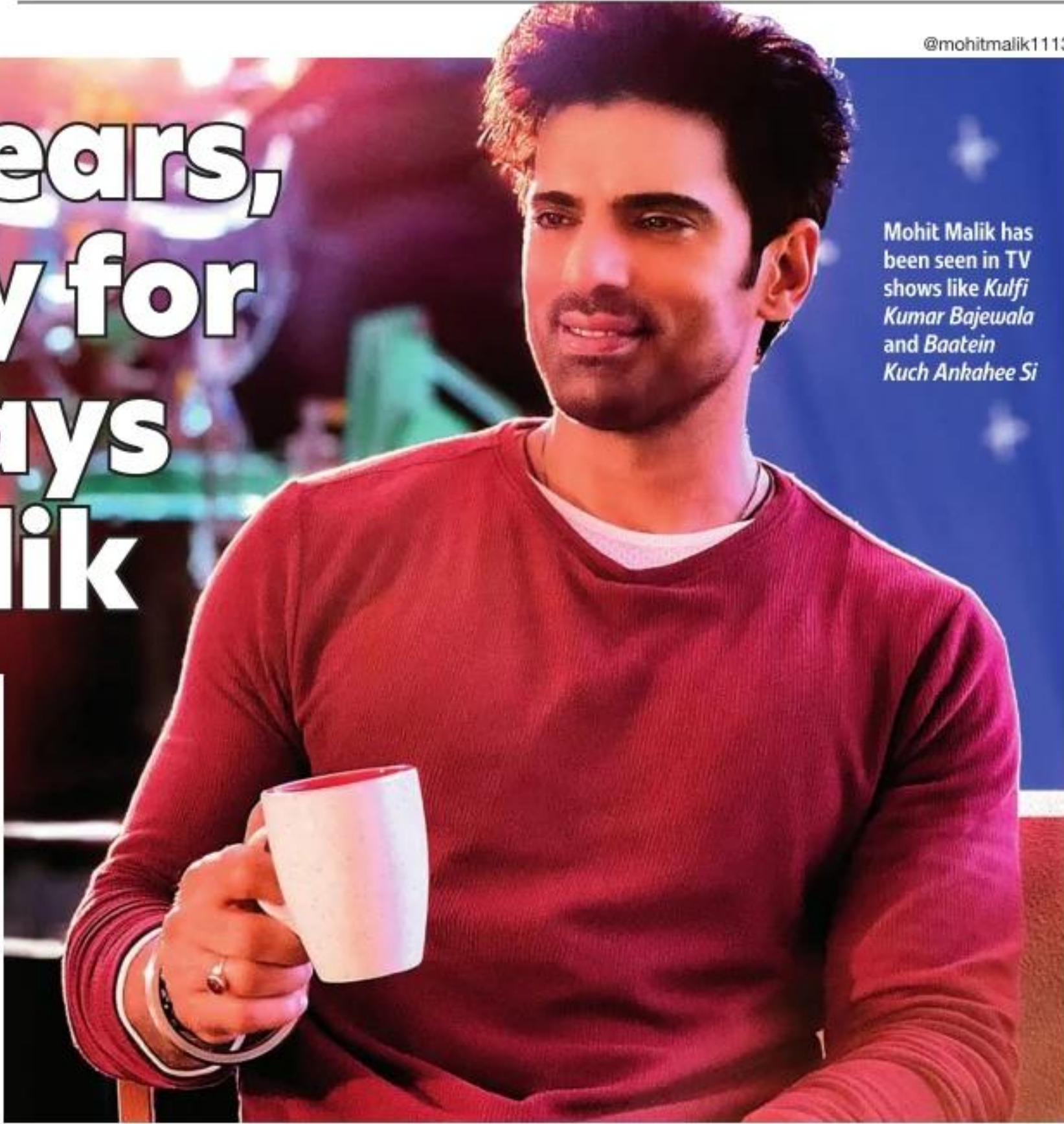
'I HAD TO START FROM SCRATCH TO BAG A FILM IN BOLLYWOOD'
TV actors often say that it's not easy for them to get into

films. Sharing his experience, Mohit says, "I will not say it is an easy process for any actor to bag a good film. Even after working in TV for so long, it was a completely new journey when I started giving auditions and meeting people for films. People did not judge me because I was a TV actor, but they felt that it is a different medium and one has to prove oneself again. The difficult part is how you have to start from scratch even after working for two decades in showbiz. I had to clear three rounds of auditions to bag a role in *Azaad*. Also, I am not a star kid, so I had no background. I am just glad that I bagged a film with a good filmmaker, rest will be my hard work and destiny."

'HAVE PLAYED ROLES WHICH HAVE LAYERS'
Mohit clarifies that he doesn't plan to quit TV or OTT for films. He says, "I am looking at playing interesting roles across all mediums. In my OTT show *Chamak*, I played a queer character. Many actors had rejected the role, but I saw it as a challenge. I have always played roles which have layers."

— Tanvi Trivedi

Even after working in TV for so long, it was a new journey when I started giving auditions for films



@mohitmalik1113

Mohit Malik has been seen in TV shows like *Kulfi Kumar Bajewala* and *Baatein Kuch Anhahee Si*

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Kareena Kapoor embraced the baingani hue for Dussehra

BAINGANI TO SHEER: How 2024 revived iconic style trends

In 2024, fashion enthusiasts and influencers were all treated to a nostalgic wave of trends that once defined iconic eras in style. Yet, these trends weren't simply resurrected; they evolved, infused with modern sensibilities and embraced by a new generation of fashion-forward thinkers. From the revival of bold deep purple hues to the resurgence of sheer fabrics, 2024 saw an exciting mix of reinventions and remixes from the past. Here's a closer look... ANI

Deepika Padukone wore a baingani bejewelled saree to Anant Ambani's sangeet; (right) Sonam Kapoor turned heads with a statement corset belt in Paris

Alia Bhatt wowed at the 2024 Met Gala in a handcrafted sheer sari and a gem-studded blouse; (right) Kriti Sanon made a vintage statement in a cherry-red co-ord set with chunky gold buttons

Nora Fatehi's athleisure looks are the perfect blend of comfort & couture

The 'baingani' resurrection

While purple has always been associated with nobility, in 2024, baingani hues dominated haute couture runways, weddings as well as street-style fashion. From Kareena Kapoor to Deepika Padukone, several celebs sported the hue. On the international stage, Tyra Banks closed the 2024 Victoria's Secret Fashion Show in a bold purple silhouette proving that purple – once the colour of emperors and queens – is now a symbol of modern luxury.

2024 REWIND

The statement belt's resurgence

The year also saw the return of statement belts. These wide, bold and often heavily embellished belts were a highlight of both casual and formal ensembles, adding definition to waists and drawing attention to the silhouette. From Sonam Kapoor to Shilpa Shetty, several celebs sported belts adorned with metal studs or oversized buckles in 2024.

Sheer revival

Sheer fabrics, often associated with the glamour and allure of the late 90s and early 2000s, made a comeback in 2024, capturing the fashion world's attention with its bold sensuality and unexpected versatility. Sheer fabrics also became a red carpet staple in 2024 with celebs like Jennifer Lopez and Alia Bhatt sporting sheer ensembles at the 2024 Met Gala.

The rise of luxe sportswear

The year saw the rise of luxe sportswear, a trend that blurred the lines between athletic gear and high fashion. Luxe fabrics like silk and satin were incorporated into sporty designs, and tailored athletic pieces were seen on runways.

Casually co-ord

In 2024, co-ord sets were a fashion staple, offering effortless style and comfort. Versatile for any occasion, celebs like Kriti Sanon and Bhumi Pednekar were seen embracing co-ords for work as well as travel. The trend continues to grow, with gender-neutral options.

FAST FASHION AMONG TOP THREATS TO CLIMATE CHANGE

2024: A red alert year for earth

The world experienced more than double the number of natural disasters, especially hurricanes, cyclones, floods and rains, in 2024 than the number experienced 20 years ago, says a report by World Population Review

A 73% decline in wildlife
According to World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)'s Living Planet Report 2024, the world's wildlife population has declined by 73% in the past 50 years. "Between 1970 and 2020, the size of wildlife populations plummeted by 73% on average. This is based on almost 35,000 population trends across 5,495 species of amphibians, birds, fish, mammals and reptiles. Regionally, the worst losses happened in Latin America (-95%)" the report said, adding that freshwater species experienced a disturbing 85% decline.

54kg of food was wasted by each Indian in 2024*

If you waste food without a thought...
According to an earth.org report citing data from Our World in Data, around 1.3 billion tonnes of food intended for human consumption is wasted or lost. "This is enough to feed 3 billion people," the report said. According to the data, almost 40% of the waste occurs at the post-harvest and processing levels, while in developed countries, 40% of it occurs at the retail and consumer levels.

20% of global wastewater (93bn cubic metres) is generated by dyeing textiles**

Can't bear to repeat outfits? Think again
Various reports show that the fashion industry now accounts for 10% of global carbon emissions, 8% greenhouse gas emissions, and 9% of the annual microplastic pollution in our oceans. In 2024, statistics peg textile waste generated globally at more than 92 million tonnes.

1% of the 3,230 kilo tonne e-waste produced in India in 2024 was recycled^

A gizmo graveyard
E-waste or electronic waste refers to discarded electrical and electronic products such as computers, TVs, earphones, smartphones, circuits, etc. Most e-waste is considered hazardous. By 2024, the earth has amassed around 347 metric tonnes of unrecycled e-waste, with China, the US and India producing most of it, says a report by theroundup.org.

The hottest year on record
The year was the first on record to see more than 1.5°C rise in global temperatures compared to pre-industrial times. According to Copernicus, the European Union's Climate Change Service, 2024 is sure to be the hottest year on record. "It is virtually certain that 2024 will be the warmest in the ERA5 reanalysis dataset, going back to 1940, based on the data available through October," said a Copernicus report, adding, "October 2024 was 1.65°C above pre-industrial level."

After Gen Alpha, Generation Beta to arrive in 2025

Image generated by AI; for representational purposes only

Challenges for Gen Beta
Growing up in a hyper-digital world, Gen Beta will experience social connections differently, says McCrindle. "We predict Gen Beta will embody the balance between hyper-connectivity and personal expression."

A new generation, called the Generation Beta, is set to arrive in 2025. This will comprise children born between 2025 and 2039. According to social researcher Mark McCrindle, who is often credited with defining the generational labels, this new generation is estimated to make up 16% of the global population by 2035. In his blog post, McCrindle says, "Gen Beta will grow up in an era dominated by AI, autonomous transport, and immersive technologies." He adds, "With climate change, global population shifts, and rapid urbanisation at the forefront, sustainability will not just be a preference but an expectation."

Interestingly, parents of Gen Betas – who will mainly be Gen Zers – may adopt a different approach to social media use. They will prioritise limiting screen time, having witnessed the pros and cons of early social media exposure firsthand.

Adding to this, another generational expert Jason Dorsey states that Gen Betas will learn about the COVID-19 pandemic in their history class. He told the NBC News, "It'll be something that maybe older siblings went through, certainly something they learn about in history, but not something that is necessarily a contemporary event."

By the time Gen Beta will be old enough to vote, Gen Z may hold elected positions.

Sources: *UNEP Food Waste Index Report 2024, **UNEP, ^theroundup.org, ^^Nov 24 report by Potsdam Institute of Climate Impact Research, Germany, + World Population Review report on natural disasters in 2024; ++State of the Cryosphere 2024 – Lost Ice, Global Damage report (published Nov 12) – Compiled by Upam Buzarbaruah

'CONFIDENT THAT 2025 WILL START WITH A BANG'

CONTINUED FROM R 1

Akshay Kumar, R Madhavan and Ananya Panday's untitled film

Akshay Kumar, R Madhavan and Ananya Panday have teamed up for an yet-untitled film, based on acclaimed lawyer C Sankaran Nair, who fought a legal battle against the British empire in the 1920s. The film will mark directorial debut of writer Karan Singh Tyagi and is based on the book, *The Case That Shook the Empire* by Raghu Palat and Pushpa Palat.



Fateh

In the film that marks Sonu Sood's directorial debut, he will also be seen playing the titular character as an ex-Special Ops operative. The action thriller also features Jacqueline Fernandez, along with Naseeruddin Shah and Vijay Raaz in key roles.

Emergency

Directed by Kangana Ranaut, the film, which is a biographical action drama based on the state of Indian Emergency, will see the actress leading the show. Kangana plays former Prime Minister of India, Indira Gandhi. The film also stars Anupam Kher, Shreyas Talpade, Mahima Chaudhry and Milind Soman.



Thandel

Thandel will be Naga Chaitanya's first release post his wedding with Sobhita Dhulipala. Directed by Chandoo Mondeti, the Telugu film also stars Sai Pallavi.

The first quarter of 2025 is looking interesting as we have such varied films in different genres. The audience has always looked forward to variety and 2025 has a lot to offer
- Trade analyst Taran Adarsh



Game Changer

Ram Charan plays a double role in this pan-India political action thriller directed by S. Shankar, which also stars Kiara Advani.

Captain America: Brave New World

The American superhero film based on the Marvel Comics character Sam Wilson / Captain America is the fourth instalment in the *Captain America* film series, a continuation of the television miniseries, *The Falcon and the Winter Soldier* (2021). The film is directed by Julius Onah and stars Anthony Mackie as Sam Wilson / Captain America.

OTHER RELEASES IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 2025

Sanki

After making his debut with *Tadap* in 2021, Ahan Shetty is back with his next, titled *Sanki*. The film also starring Pooja Hegde, is directed by Adnan A Shaikh and Yasir Jah.

Sky Force

The war film directed by Abhishek Anil Kapur and Sandeep Kewlani, stars Akshay Kumar, Nimrat Kaur and Sara Ali Khan. Joining them in the cast is Veer Pahariya (marking his debut). *Sky Force* is a take on India's retaliatory attack on Pakistan's Sargodha airbase in the Indo-Pak air war of 1965.

Loveyapa

Newcomers Junaid Khan and Khushi Kapoor's upcoming romantic comedy *Loveyapa* releases in February. Described as a "tangled tale of love and its complications with a mix of fun and laughter", the film is directed by Advait Chandon of *Laal Singh Chaddha* and *Secret Superstar* fame. The film is said to be a remake of the 2022 Tamil movie *Love Today*.



Kailash Kher says, "Fans are leaning towards music with a touch of spirituality these days"

'There's a significant rise in the number of concerts in India'



Divya Kaushik

With more than 100 concerts and performances across the world, 2024 was one of the busiest years for Kailash Kher. "As compared to the last few years, it is for the first time that we have had back-to-back concerts for more than a month. I don't have any break till January 8. *Mera gala bhi baith jata hai* and I often tell people ki, '*Baksh do mujhe, 12-15 din se lagatar gaa raha hun 2-3 ghante tak*,'" the singer shares.

'I think 2024 was the first time when so many concerts were held in India'

The singer, who is known for his songs like *Jaikara*, *Teri Deewani*, says that the biggest change in the music scene this year has been the increase in live shows and concerts. "2024 was the first time that so many concerts have happened in India. As compared to the last few years, there was a significant rise in the number of concerts. Fans are evolving and now they want to attend live concerts. *Pehle kaun concert ke tickets khareedta tha? Pehle toh free mein chahiye thi sabko tickets*. Now, we are at a stage where almost all our shows are sold out. Fans are changing their approach towards music and what they like to hear is also changing. They give preference to non-filmy music too," he says.

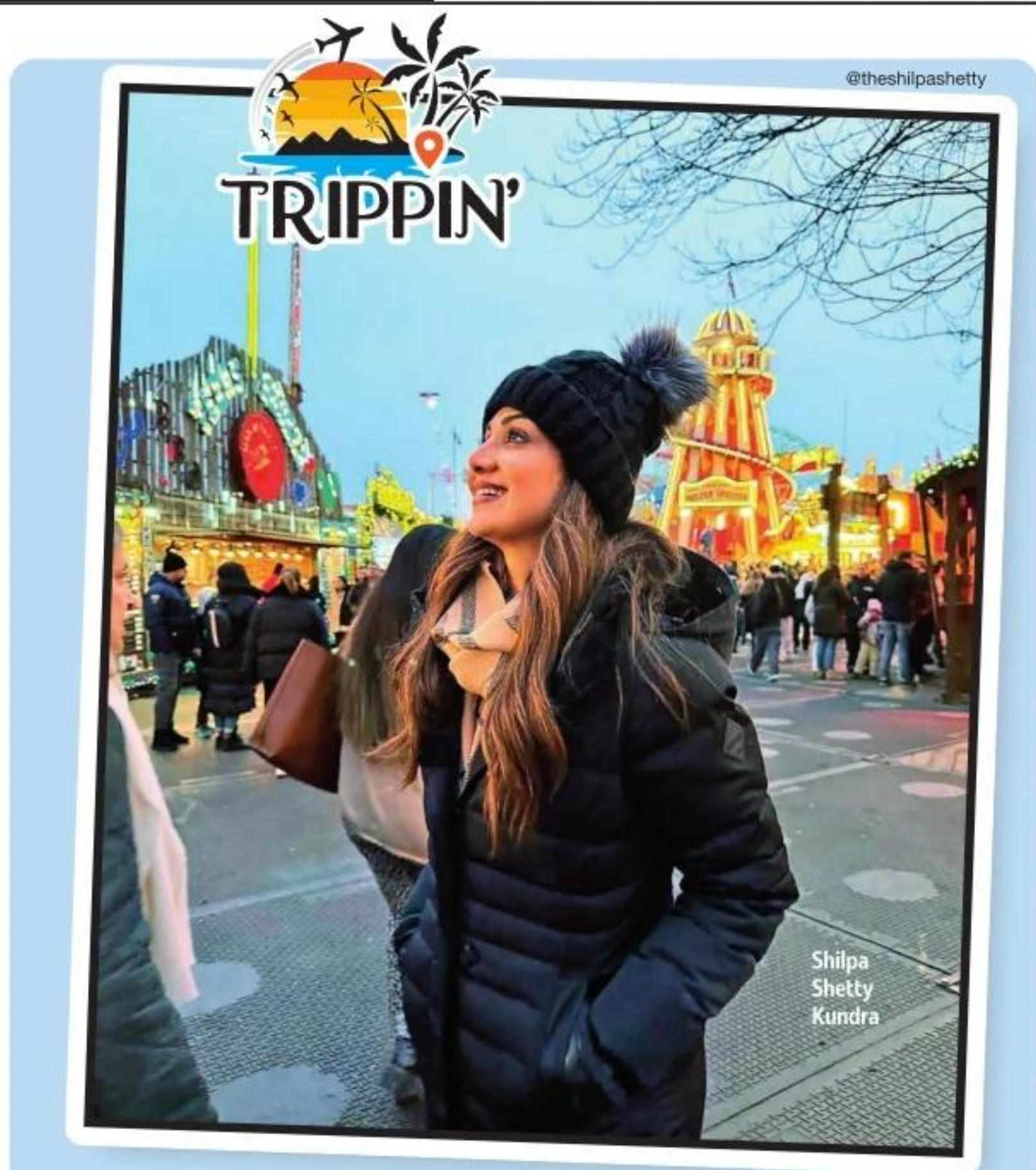


Crowd-favourites at Kailash's concerts

- Saiyyan
- Bum Lahiri
- Jaikara

'We currently lack good infrastructure for music concerts and festivals'

He adds that while the number of concerts in India is going up, there is an urgent need to develop concert venues in different cities. "When we recently performed in Delhi, at Central Park in Connaught Place, the venue was for 4,000-5,000 people, but around 12,000 people attended the concert. We currently lack good infrastructure for music concerts and festivals. We need more venues. Auditoriums and amphitheatres should be planned like malls in different cities, especially metros. While there have been initiatives, we need multiple venues with world-class facilities," he says.



Stars give 2025 a wintery welcome! From snow-peaked mountains, carnivals in London to dreamy Finland - celebs bid farewell to 2024 wrapped in winter goodness

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